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The film festival where everyone gets auditioned, Julia Llewellyn Smith, p17

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THE TIMES

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MONDAY MAY 22 1995

History being rewritten, says Clarke

Thatcher stirs ministers to fight back

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR Conservatives rounded on Baroness Thatcher last night after she attacked John Major's leadership and accused the Government of dodging important decisions.

Kenneth Clarke led the counter-offensive, accusing the former Prime Minister of rewriting history and pointing out that many of the Government's problems had arisen from her administration. Others privately described Lady Thatcher as "an irrelevance", "out of touch" and "suffering the effects of sour grapes".

The Prime Minister was reported to have been infuriated by his predecessor's barely disguised personal attacks on him. One colleague described him as "not best pleased", adding that he felt she had gone too far in her sniping for her remarks to be ignored.

Lady Thatcher's criticisms appear in the second volume of her memoirs, *The Path to Power*, which is to be serialised in *The Sunday Times* from next week. Yesterday the paper reported that she wants dramatic changes in domestic and foreign policy, but the main subject of her onslaught is the Prime Minister's approach to Europe.

She claims that Mr Major's policy of putting Britain "at the heart of Europe" led directly to the worst recession for fifty years, and declares that Britain must be prepared to fight its corner by "pursuing every measure of obstruction and disruption open to us". Her radical agenda "to put things right" includes a fight to regain power for Westminster, a rejection of the Mas-



Thatcher: obstruction wanted in Europe

tricht Treaty and a total break with all moves towards political union within the EU.

Mr Clarke fiercely rejected her criticisms yesterday, saying that decisions made during her time in Downing Street had caused many of the problems that had dogged Mr Major's premiership.

The Chancellor told the BBC's *On The Record* programme: "The origins of the recession, which happened in every other Western country, came when we got monetary policy wrong. We carried on relaxing in the late 1980s when we had a very successful growing economy. They relaxed it for too long and... we had boom followed by bust."

"It was during Margaret's time in government that it happened. I am not going to start attacking Margaret's Government, I served all the way through it and it was a damn good Government."

"If Margaret was in office now she would be complaining about people reminiscing

and slightly rewriting what happened a few years ago, wanting us to look forward."

Other senior Conservatives said that Lady Thatcher was in danger of emulating Sir Edward Heath by attacking her successor.

The ferocity of the reaction indicated fears that Lady Thatcher's remarks could lead to further unrest among backbenchers, many of whom are already annoyed that they may have to declare their outside earnings as a result of the Nolan committee investigation set up by Mr Major.

Labour gleefully seized on the divisions yesterday, claiming that Lady Thatcher's comments reflected the growing disenchantment with Mr Major's leadership. It said the intensity of the counter-attack "shows clearly that the party is consumed by panic".

Labour also pointed to Lady Thatcher's statement that it was "for others to take the action required" as being reminiscent of Lord Howe's prophetic words before her downfall in 1990. When he resigned as Foreign Secretary, he told the Commons: "The time has come for others to consider their response to the tragic conflict of loyalty with which I have myself wrestled for perhaps too long."

Lady Thatcher's friends insisted, however, that she was calling for a change of policy rather than a change of leadership. They also said that she had not intended to cause offence, and had been surprised at the backlash.

In her book, Lady Thatcher says that she did not want to undermine her successor, adding: "I had faced sufficient difficulties with Ted Heath not to wish to inflict similar ones."

But Tristram Garel-Jones, the former Europe minister who is a close friend of Mr Major, suggested that she had failed. "Ted, at least, was, and remains an MP, so he does have some democratic platform from which to put his views, unhelpful though they were to her," he said. "I think she should draw lessons from that."

Mr Garel-Jones also pointed out that many of the problems she saw with Brussels power were enshrined in the Single European Act, which she steered through Parliament. Sir Geoffrey Johnson-Smith, vice-chairman of the backbench 1922 Committee, also said that Lady Thatcher was responsible for handing over a number of key powers to Brussels, adding: "She has got out of touch since she left office."

Euro-sceptic MPs, however, supported her. Bill Cash said: "What she is saying is true. She must talk out because the stakes are so high."



Emma Thompson, star of the film *Carrington*, with co-star Jonathan Pryce, right, and director Christopher Hampton in Cannes yesterday

Film-makers cast Dorrell as the villain

FROM DALYA ALBERGE IN CANNES

STEPHEN DORRELL, the Heritage Secretary who recently found himself unable to remember the last film he had seen, was yesterday trying to prove his interest in cinema by spending a day at the Cannes Film Festival.

But once again the script did not go as planned. As he was whisked from one meeting to another like some heavy-weight Hollywood mogul, mingling with the movers and shakers of the industry, two of Britain's leading film-makers launched a vicious attack on his apparent lack of interest in the cinema.

Christopher Hampton, the writer and director of

Carrington, a film about Dora Carrington, *femme fatale* of the Bloomsbury Group, said: "Perhaps if the Heritage Secretary went a little more often to the cinema, he would see

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that it has some merits." He added that "the Government could hardly have done less if they had made cinema illegal in Britain".

John McGrath, the producer of *Carrington*, added: "The minister should either provide a consistent film policy or get

rid of his Government. Either will do."

Mr Dorrell was due to attend the film's premiere last night. He was also expected to be introduced to the film-makers before going off to a party. There is speculation that Mr Dorrell will replace Virginia Bottomley as Health Secretary in a reshuffle, but the Heritage Secretary insisted that he expected to "see the job through".

He is unlikely to get the support being enjoyed by his opposite number in France. More than 50 actors and film-makers have petitioned Jacques Chirac, the new President, to keep Jacques Toubon

on as Arts Minister. Seemingly undeterred by the day's events, but responding to earlier criticisms, Mr Dorrell insisted that he had rediscovered a love of film that he had as a young man.

But minutes later he had made another *four pas*. Referring to Jeanne Moreau, the French actress who has been described as an incarnation of French femininity and who heads this year's Cannes festival jury, he said: "The jury is headed by a distinguished Frenchman."

The trip comes as Mr Dorrell prepares to publish on June 6 his response to the film industry report by a parlia-



Dorrell: gaffe-prone

mentary select committee. He said yesterday that he intends to set out a "clear view of where government can help" but would not elaborate.

Blair breaks with past on inflation

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR will today make a decisive break with Labour's past by pledging that the war against inflation will be the central aim of his economic policy in government.

In a radical shift from his party's traditional economic thinking, which regarded rising prices as an acceptable trade-off for higher growth and more employment, the Labour leader will warn his party that it faces a "long haul" to put the economy right and that it should expect no swift solutions.

He will tell it that it should not anticipate the sort of short term dash for growth that characterised Labour and Tory governments in the 1970s and 1980s. "New Labour means being tough on inflation," he will tell a City audience.

In a speech which Mr Blair

regards as his most important since he became leader last July — even on a par with his conference address on Clause Four last autumn — the Labour leader will say that economic courage and economic credibility are the two key tests that the party must pass.

Mr Blair believes that getting Labour to ditch the old Clause Four and its ancient commitment to public ownership was the most important party reform he could have carried through. But he sees the toughness of its economic approach and the discipline it shows in pushing it through as the deciding factor in the success of a Labour government.

His message in the annual Maitland lecture at the City University, London, will be seen as

Continued on page 2, col 1

Girl, 14, found strangled and dumped in woodland

By PAUL WILKINSON

A SCHOOLGIRL was sexually assaulted, beaten and then strangled as she travelled home after meeting a friend.

The semi-clothed body of Janet Swanson, 14, was found by walkers dumped in a woodland a few hundred yards from the bus stop where she was last seen less than three hours before. Last night a youth aged 15 was being questioned by detectives.

Det Supt Malcolm Mawson, leading the inquiry, said that it seemed that Janet had been killed "on the spur of the moment".

The teenager died three weeks after her mother, Hazel, placed her into temporary local authority care because of domestic problems at their home in Killingbeck, Leeds.

Mrs Swanson and her husband, Andrew, who are sepa-



Janet Swanson: killed after visit to friend

rated, were both said to be devastated. The girl was last seen alive at 4.40 pm on Saturday at a bus stop on the Killingbeck retail park, less than a quarter of a mile from her mother's home.

Detectives said she was returning to her social services

accommodation in the city's Stanningley area after seeing a friend living in a children's home in Killingbeck. Mr Mawson said the teenager, who had two brothers and a sister, was a "quiet, likeable and attractive young girl".

Girls at the home where Janet was living were said to be very upset by her death. Mike Evans, the Leeds assistant director of social services said: "It is an awful tragedy and everyone is absolutely devastated."

He said youngsters at the home were free to come and go as they please.

Mr Evans said staff were concerned that she had not returned for her evening meal and were on the verge of raising the alarm when news of her killing came through.

Police are to check whether sticks and stones at the murder were used as weapons.

Pro-women putsch plotted at universities club

By BEN PRESTON

A CLUBLAND putsch is being plotted against the old guard of the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club in a renewed attempt to secure equal treatment for women.

Campaigners for change are mobilising the 3,000 members for a showdown at the club's annual general meeting on June 12. They are seeking to oust opponents from the committee and push through rule

changes to allow a fresh ballot on full membership for women.

The challenge reflects frustration at the club's continued resistance to change after clashes with the two universities whose names and coats of arms it bears. All but four of the 73 heads of Oxbridge colleges announced their resignations en masse from the club in London's Pall Mall in February. They condemned as offensive rules that forbid women full membership and use of the library

and members' bar. The new front has been opened by five long-standing members, including Sir Patrick Nairne, former Permanent Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security and former Master of St Catherine's College, Oxford, and Sir Geoffrey Chippierfield, former Permanent Secretary at the Department of Energy.

In a letter to members, they say that recent events have caused serious disquiet at the club and have led to

many resignations, with implications for the club's finances. The campaigners argue that the root of the problems was the "undemocratic outcome" of a postal vote in 1993 when 48 per cent of members eligible to vote supported women's membership and only 14.9 per cent voted against. That was not sufficient to bring about change, however, because the club rules had been changed shortly before to require an absolute majority of all those eligible to vote if changes were to be made.

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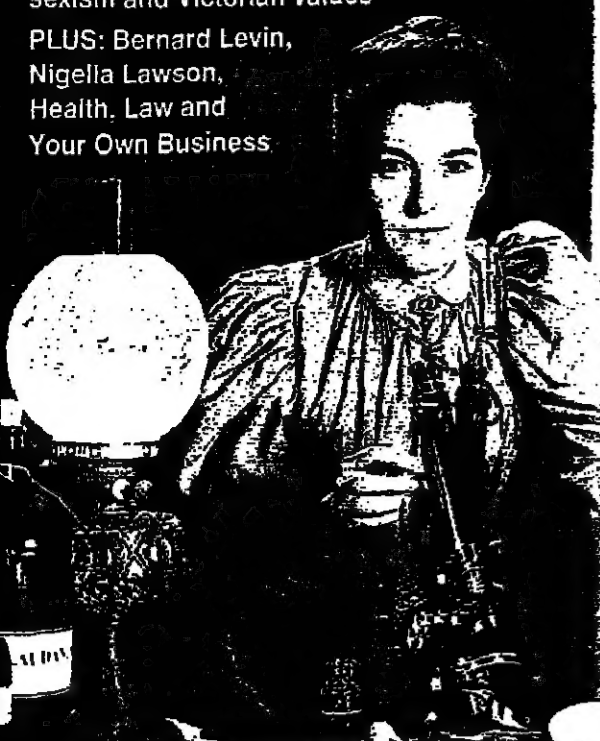
THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

TELEVISION

Matthew Bond on doctor dramas, sexism and Victorian values

PLUS: Bernard Levin, Nigella Lawson, Health, Law and Your Own Business

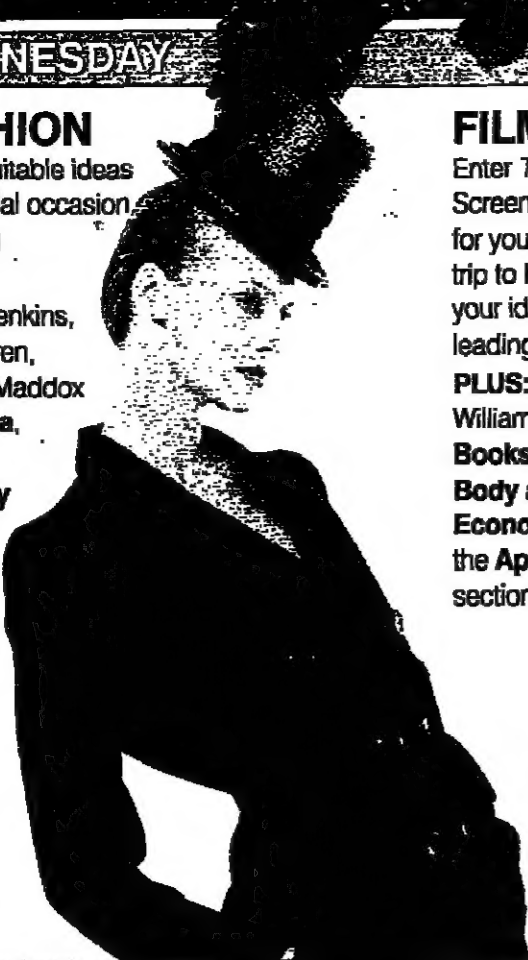


WEDNESDAY

FASHION

Some suitable ideas for special occasion dressing

PLUS: Simon Jenkins, Alan Coren, Brenda Maddox on Media, and the Property pages



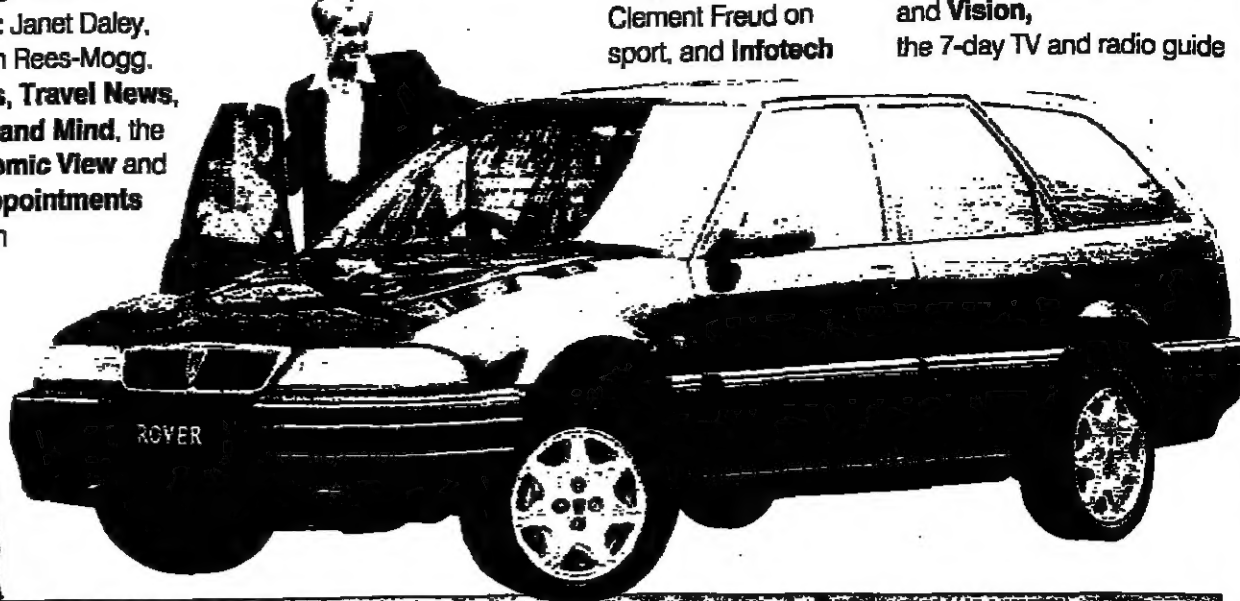
THURSDAY

FILMS

Enter The Times Screenwriting Competition for your chance to win a trip to Hollywood to pitch your idea to the leading studios

PLUS: Janet Daley, William Rees-Mogg, Books, Travel News, Body and Mind, the Economic View and the Appointments section

THE TIMES
SCREEN
WRITING
COMPETITION



FRIDAY

POP

Caitlin Moran on modern music and musicians
PLUS: Bernard Levin, Philip Howard, Clement Freud on sport, and Infotech

SATURDAY

MOTORING

Win a £17,000 Rover Tourer
PLUS: Weekend: the £100 prize jumbo crossword.
Magazine: the great British sex film. Weekend Money and Vision, the 7-day TV and radio guide

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Morris accuses TGWU challenger of 'lust for power'

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

CONTENDERS for the top job in the Transport and General Workers' Union clashed openly yesterday as Bill Morris accused his challenger of having "a lust for power".

In a marked heightening of hostilities in the battle for the general secretaryship of the TGWU, which is the Labour Party's biggest union affiliate, Mr Morris said that if his rival, Jack Dromey, — husband of the Shadow Employment Secretary — were elected, the union's policies would "carved up over the dinner table".

Close supporters of Tony Blair, the Labour leader, are making clear that they would prefer to see Mr Dromey, who is currently the TGWU's national secretary, win the contest, but Mr Morris argues that to do so would in effect hand the union over to modernisers in the Labour Party.

In reply, Mr Dromey, who argued against Mr Morris that TGWU members should have been balloted when the union unsuccessfully opposed Mr Blair's changing of the party's Clause 4, charges that Mr Morris is threatening

Labour's chances of victory in the general election by constantly fighting Mr Blair on key issues.

The two men clashed publicly yesterday when they were both interviewed on BBC's *Breakfast with Frost*. Their row had hitherto been confined to attacks in speeches and press briefings.

Internal union branch nominations currently suggest a 3-2 win for Mr Morris in the postal ballot for the leadership.

Mr Morris said Mr Dromey was a "defeated" candidate who "has run out of ideas, has run out of supporters and now he has run out of loyalty". In suggesting the TGWU was damaging Labour, Mr Dromey was dragging the union's name through the mud, he claimed.

He said he could not see how Mr Dromey and his wife Harriet Harman could carry out their jobs, especially concerning a minimum wage, if Mr Dromey were elected as TGWU leader. In line with the Labour leadership's policy, Mr Harman is advocating that the level of a minimum wage should not be set before the next general election. In

line with TGWU policy, Mr Dromey yesterday declared himself firmly in support of a minimum wage level of £4 an hour.

Mr Morris said of the TGWU battle: "The election is about leadership. It's about experience. It's about loyalty. And it's about trust. I have got all those. My opponent has not."

Responding to Mr Morris, Mr Dromey said: "I regret the attack upon Harriet." The difference between Mr Morris and himself, he said, was that he wanted to spend his time attacking the Conservatives rather than the Labour Party.

He told Sir David Frost: "What I don't want to do is for the union always to be seen in the public arena battling with Tony Blair, because frankly, our members do not understand that."

Mr Morris, he said, was no longer in touch with ordinary shop-floor members of the TGWU, who were sending an "unmistakable" message from union members for change. He said: "They are desperate for change. They are desperate for the union to recover and they are desperate for a Labour government."



Sir Jerry surrounded by journalists at Heathrow

Speaker may let Wiggin off with apology to House

By Arthur Leathley, Political Correspondent

THE mounting backlog of investigations into MPs' conduct could spare Sir Jerry Wiggin a full inquiry into allegations that he broke Commons rules by using the name of a fellow MP to table an amendment to a Bill in which he had a financial interest.

He has been summoned to meet Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, today and it became clear last night that Miss Boothroyd, with the backlog in mind, may not recommend an investigation, which could lead to disciplinary action, and may settle for an apology from the Tory MP for Weston-super-Mare.

The Speaker will announce her decision to the Commons today and anything less than a formal inquiry will be seized on by Labour MPs as a let-off. Sir Jerry, who flew into Heathrow on Saturday after a Parliamentary visit to South Africa, declined to discuss the issue at his home.

Miss Boothroyd's decision will coincide with Labour MPs pressing for a clear sign from the Government

that it will not hold up implementation of the Nolan Committee's recommendations on MPs' conduct. After the Prime Minister said at the weekend that he agreed with the "broad thrust" of the Nolan report, Labour will demand further assurances that a Commons committee set up to consider the proposals will not kill them off.

Mr Major responded to Tony Blair's threat that Labour would not co-operate with the committee unless it was made clear that its intention was to find ways of implementing Nolan's plans by issuing a statement from his Huntingdon home insisting that the committee would go ahead with or without Labour support.

Labour will decide today whether to force a Commons vote on Wednesday on the Nolan report. Party figures said the decision would depend on whether they received adequate assurances today, probably from Tony Newson, the Leader of the Commons.

Peter Riddell, page 18

Clarke attacks Labour over 'copycat' policy

By Alice Thomson, Political Reporter

KENNETH CLARKE attacked Labour yesterday for presenting policies that were indistinguishable from the Government's.

Speaking before Tony Blair delivers a speech on Labour economic policies today, the Chancellor claimed that the Opposition lacked any original thinking and had been forced into mimicking government ideas. "It sounds as though Tony Blair is going to be Bambi pretending to be the Monarch of the Glen."

In an interview with BBC's *On The Record*, Mr Clarke also lambasted the Shadow Chancellor, Gordon Brown. "I must be the first Chancellor who has a Shadow Chancellor who is not criticising what I am doing. Gordon Brown's problem is he thinks what I am doing is working."

"He knows it is working, he knows he could not do any better. He knows I have not persuaded the public of this yet, but he believes over the next two years that this could get very worrying indeed."

Mr Clarke complained that Mr Brown refused to comment on any government poli-

cies, even the controversy over interest-rate rises, because his line was identical. "He is no longer opposing me. All he can do is produce impenetrable prose."

"Public spending — he has no target for that. Taxation — he has no proposals whatsoever. There isn't an economic policy, it's just a lot of guys who realise that tax, borrow and spend failed every time Labour's been in office."

Despite Labour claims of a split, Mr Clarke said that he and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, were united on the need to drive down inflation. He predicted that price rises could be pegged to less than 2 per cent by 1997.

"I think the Ken and Eddie show has got a good track record, and Ken and Eddie are not only agreed on the policy objective — on sustained recovery with low inflation — but we deliver it very consistently," he said. "We must not go back to the days of high taxation and that, throughout all the sort of synthetic verbiage, is where I believe the Labour Party would take us."

Baker gives campers shelter from storm

KENNETH BAKER came to the aid of two campers whose tent had blown down during storms on a Scottish island yesterday.

The former Home Secretary invited the pair, one of whom was a freelance BBC radio presenter, into a moorland lodge where he was waiting for another member of his party: John Birt, Director-General of the BBC.

Innes Munro, 24, a Gaelic radio presenter, and Ian Macleod, 22, a fish processor, had been camping for two days in the hills of Harris, in the Western Isles, when the weather closed in. Mr Munro said: "We were trying to make our way back to the road. It was hard going and Ian was pretty near exhaustion by that time. Suddenly we saw this

Union Jack flying from this cottage-type building. Then this man came out towards us and asked us if we were all right. I did think he was vaguely familiar."

Mr Baker gave them beer and shelter. Mr Munro said: "This nice woman said: 'We're waiting for my husband, John. You may have heard of him at the BBC — he's the Director-General.'"

Mr Baker's party was at the lodge to celebrate a friend's sixtieth birthday. Mrs Birt said that her husband would be interested to meet a BBC presenter in the Hebridean hills, but the pair had recovered sufficiently to leave before he arrived.

Mr Munro said later: "He is the big boss at the Beeb. After all, I hadn't even shaved."

Murdoch condemns 'elitist' Channel 4

Rupert Murdoch, chairman and chief executive of the News Corporation, owner of *The Times*, last night called Channel 4 an unaccountable station whose output ranged from elitism to pornography. He told BBC's *Money Programme* that Channel 4 should be privatised. "It's just a loose cannon which doesn't have to pay dividends or do anything to anybody."

Italian deal, page 44

Clinton plea

President Clinton has called on the Government to establish all-party talks on Northern Ireland at the "earliest possible opportunity".

Prince's visit, page 5

Tombstone death

A girl aged 7 died in a cemetery in Liverpool yesterday when a gravestone fell on her. Two men tried to lift it off and the fire brigade was called. She died in hospital.

Shore to retire

The senior backbencher Peter Shore, 71, a former Labour Cabinet minister, is to stand down at the next election to make way for "a younger person".

Hurley's verdict

The actress Elizabeth Hurley has lambasted Hollywood in a magazine interview. "I thought 70 per cent of the people I met were idiots," she told *Woman's Own*.

Lottery winners

No one won the lottery jackpot of £9.4 million, which will roll over until next week when the top prize could be £17 million, Camelot said.

Numbers, page 22

Engineering results

A list of the newly-qualified chartered, incorporated engineers and engineering technicians will appear in tomorrow's edition of *The Times*.

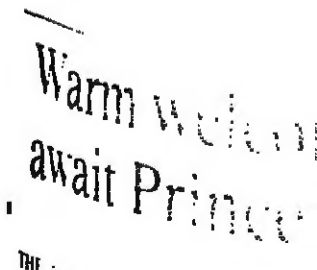
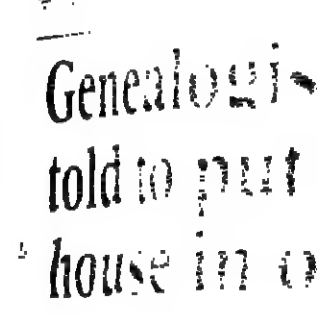
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Chelsea Flower Show

Garden ornaments provide thieves with easy pickings

BY JOHN YOUNG
AND GEORGE PLUMPTRE

A BRONZE statue of three cherubs supporting a flower bowl at the Chelsea Flower Show is a reminder of the growing incidence of garden theft. The 3ft statue, valued at £10,000, was recovered by police in a raid in southeast London earlier this month.

When the show opens tomorrow it will be on display on the Metropolitan Police stand, where it is secured by an alarm against further predators, with a notice inviting the rightful owner to reclaim it. Other owners of garden statues are advised to concrete them into the ground and protect them with alarm systems or closed-circuit television.

An array of helpful hints includes securing lawnmowers by using "anchors" embedded in the ground, bolting window boxes to the wall and setting large flower pots in concrete. The use of trellis at the top of a fence will make it difficult to climb, and the addition of a thorny climbing rose may persuade garden thieves to go elsewhere.

PC Peter Waine, a crime prevention officer at Harrow, northwest London, said yesterday that garden robbers would stop at nothing: even lawns were rolled up and stolen wholesale.

PC Waine first approached the Royal Horticultural Society about a police stand five years ago, when he was based in Chelsea. At that time a survey showed that about one in 20 domestic gardens had been burgled within the previ-



The stolen cherubs

ous two years; the figure has since risen to one in seven.

"I suppose it was born out of frustration," he said. "Chelsea police had been patrolling the show for years and I thought it was time we had our own stand. I am very pleased with the response we have had."

Would-be burglars might show a more than passing interest in a pair of lightweight flexible gardening boots from Japan, on display at the Honda Tea Garden. The boot is said to be far more comfortable than the conventional Wellington and to give an excellent grip when climbing trees or walls.

The garden is being used to promote the charity Action Research, which funds preventive medicine and has played a leading part in the development of ultrasound scans in pregnancy, vaccines

against polio and German measles and the design and fitting of artificial hips.

Eoin Redahan, of Action Research, said the idea of a Japanese garden was to reduce stress and thereby help to prevent illness. There was a natural link between a peaceful garden and good health.

Julian Dowle has been helped with the garden by the Japanese designer Koji Ninomiya. The combination of carefully positioned rocks and gravel, foliage plants and water, as well as the elegant tea house and bonsai specimens, is immensely skilful.

The garden also illustrates how Japanese gardens have always been places of ceremony and symbolism, as well as natural beauty, a theme that could be well adapted to make our own gardens places of peace.

War, as well as peace, is recalled in the re-creation of a wartime "dig for victory" garden by the Imperial War Museum to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Complete with Anderson shelter, the garden has been used to grow the vegetables recommended at the time to safeguard the nation's health.

Another notable anniversary will be commemorated at the show, held in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, its home since 1913. To mark its hundredth birthday, the National Trust is launching a new rose, named after its founder, Dame Octavia Hill.

Admission by ticket only. Telephone 0171-366 4696.

Alan Toogood, page 20

Genealogists are told to put their house in order

BY EDWARD GORMAN

A LEADING genealogist has called on the profession to bring in tough rules to protect the public from unscrupulous operators and amateurs.

Every year thousands of people try to trace their family trees through genealogists but few realise that most have no formal qualifications, are not answerable to a national governing body and can charge what they like. Cecil Humphrey-Smith, principal of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, in Canterbury, said: "There are so many people being taken for a ride, whether deliberately or otherwise, that the time has come to protect the public."

"There has been a degree of dishonesty over the years which needs to be controlled. The profession would have greater integrity if the public knew it was answerable to a governing body." He cites dishonest practitioners who charge exorbitant fees, sell the same research twice while passing both off as original, or mislead clients as to the amount of searching required to track down information available in the local library.

There are about 20 full-time professional genealogists in the country, with a further 1,000 who charge for occasional work. Another 15,000 take

an amateur interest. Genealogists charge between £100 and £600 to trace a family tree — still the most common request.

However, they may charge much more for the growing range of more technical work they do, for example sorting out claims to titles, settling wills or helping with medical research into families with a history of disease. Mr Humphrey-Smith says that makes it all the more important that genealogists are governed by a proper professional body.

His comments have not been well received by the Association of Genealogists and Record Agents, set up as an informal group of well-intentioned genealogists in 1968. It has more than 100 members and its own code of practice and entry qualifications.

Beryl Crawley, chairman of the association, argues that it has gradually improved its standards and denies that it is not up to the job of adequately representing the profession. "There is always room for improvement and we are developing, but it takes time," she said. She conceded, however, that the lack of a defining qualification standard would have to be addressed sooner or later.

Taylor to support reform of sentencing

BY FRANCES GIBB

THE Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gossforth, is to press for an end to secrecy over the fixing of the length of a mandatory life sentence for murder. He is expected to back an amendment to the Criminal Appeals Bill, during its forthcoming committee stage in the Lords, ending the system, opposed by judges, under which they secretly say how long a murderer should serve.

Judges fill out a confidential form recommending the minimum period they think a murderer should serve to fulfil the requirements of retribution and deterrence. The trial judge passes these recommendations to the Lord Chief Justice, who in turn makes his own, and passes them in confidence to the Home Secretary. Although prisoners are told of the recommendation, the Court of Appeal has held that they have no right of appeal against the trial judge's recommendation because it is not an order of the court and is not defined as a sentence.

Lord Taylor is understood to favour a change so that judges would hear argument in open court and then state their recommendation publicly. Prisoners would have a right of appeal. The Home Secretary would retain the right to fix the final sentence.

Warm welcome and protests await Prince on Dublin visit

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE British Embassy in Dublin has been inundated with requests to meet the Prince of Wales next week when he becomes the most senior member of the Royal Family to visit the Republic since partition in 1921. One woman member of the Irish Parliament has even asked if she can dance with him.

As Ireland prepares for a trip that would have been unthinkable before the IRA ceasefire, politicians from across the political spectrum are hailing the visit as an example of growing warmth in Anglo-Irish relations.

However, the scars of Northern Ireland's Troubles will be highlighted during the trip by a hardened core of republicans who will mount a demonstration to coincide with the Prince's arrival in Dublin. The protesters are running an "anti-Para

Prince" campaign: he is Colonel-in-Chief of the Parachute Regiment which shot dead 13 people in Londonderry on Bloody Sunday in January 1972.

Details of the Prince's visit, which will fulfil one of his cherished ambitions, have not been disclosed for security reasons. However, it is understood that John Bruton, the Taoiseach, will host a banquet in his honour in Dublin. He will also meet President Robinson and carry out a number of engagements in Dublin.

One Irish official said: "This visit is highly perceptive and is loaded with symbolism. It would not have been possible a year ago for security and political reasons."

The widespread welcome in the Republic for the trip is underlined by the warm reception from Fianna Fail,

which is the strongest republican party in the Irish Parliament. Eamon O Ciúin, a Fianna Fail deputy for Galway West and the grandson of Eamon de Valera, told the BBC: "The hope always was that an independent Ireland could be good friends with its nearest neighbour, Britain. I would think that it is a good thing that we have reached the stage that a member of the British Royal Family can visit here and be well received."

Sinn Féin and other republicans have launched a group, known as Dublin Against the Royal Tour, to make sure that memories of the Troubles are never far away during the visit. Des Bonass, a trade union official, said: "This is not an anti-British campaign. It's against what Prince Charles represents."



Thumper, 18, with one of his offspring, at the Abbotsbury Swannery, Dorset

Anglers troubled by increasing swan population

BY MICHAEL HORNSEY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

AN UPSURGE in the swan population on the rivers of lowland Britain is delighting ornithologists but causing problems for fishermen and farmers.

There are thought to be about 27,000 swans, the highest number for many decades. Until quite recently they were in serious decline in many parts of central and southern England.

The turnaround can be dated to the banning in 1987 of the lead pellets used by coarse anglers to weight their baits. Swans were being poisoned by pellets that they picked up from riverbeds along with the grit they need to help their digestion.

Though the swans' recovery is generally a cause for celebration, anglers say that in favoured habitats such as trout streams where lead weights were never much used and swan numbers did not decline, the birds are stripping rivers of weed essential for the survival of fish. Farmers complain that the birds are feeding on spring pasture, fouling winter grazing with their droppings and trampling crops.

Earlier this month, three commercial trout fisheries on the River Wythe in Wiltshire, one of England's finest chalk streams, applied to the Ministry of Agriculture for licences to shoot swans, the first time such a request has been made.

There is no chance that the

ministry will allow swans to be shot, not least because of the public outcry that would ensue. But other control measures less likely to attract attention, such as the removal of eggs from the birds' nests, are being discussed.

Graham Lightfoot, regional fisheries and conservation officer for the National Rivers Authority at Blandford, Dorset, says studies on the Wythe have shown that at the height of the summer swans can eat up to 90 per cent of water crowfoot and other aquatic weeds. "The weeds provide cover for trout and a habitat for the insects on which the fish feed," he said. "They also keep the water level high. If the level drops, the trout tend to keep together in the middle of the stream where the water is deepest, which makes for less good fishing."

For farmers the main problem is keeping the web-footed intruders off high-quality grass, especially in the spring when river weed growth is still low, according to David Stone, an agricultural scientist who has monitored swans on the Hampshire Avon for nearly 20 years.

"In March and April they spend a lot of time grazing on river banks," he said. "The birds are not daf. They head unerringly for the best improved grazing — the grass that has been expensively fertilised by the farmer to provide an early silage cut."



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ON MAY 2ND THIS YEAR, Norway began commercially killing minke whales. This was despite its own admission that the scientific "evidence" it uses to justify the slaughter, is wrong.

Next week the International Whaling Commission is meeting in Dublin and the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDOS), is determined to expose the Norwegian whalers for the fraudsters they are.

Can we count on your help to stop the Norwegian whalers getting away with murder? Murder of whales that may swim in UK waters too?

WHY NORWAY IS WRONG TO KILL WHALES

Norway has always had what it sees as "the perfect excuse" for continuing whaling. Scientific "evidence".

But now WDOS can reveal that this evidence is a sham.

We have a copy of a leaked letter, in which the Norwegians openly admit that their estimate of 86,700 minke whales in north east Atlantic waters is hopelessly wrong. The excuse this time? Computer "error".

The true figure is more likely to be in the region of 53,000 minke whales - a difference of over 33,000 animals.

So why is Norway still whaling?

In a cynical move to get its quota of 301 minke whales in before it could be criticised by the International Whaling Commission, Norway brought its hunt forward a month, despite the fact that many whales would be in calf.

Indeed, pregnant females are likely to be the main targets as they yield more meat and are easier to catch because they are slower.

The Norwegian Government has since lowered the quota from 301 to 232 whales. However, in open defiance of their Government and of world opinion, the Norwegian whalers have rejected the new quota, declaring their intention to slaughter 301 whales.

Officials in Norway are now desperately trying to justify the present kill by quoting their own scientists as saying their botch up (the one their whalers are conveniently trying to ignore) only entails "small errors on the data programme".

But the agonising deaths of 301 minke whales can hardly be described as "small".

WE'RE DETERMINED TO STOP THESE MURDERERS, BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP

Here are some other Norwegian "facts" which might help to convince you.

Norway has always claimed a "traditional" right to hunt minke whales. But minke whaling on a commercial scale in north west Norway only began in the early 1930s - and even then that was in the face of years of opposition from their own fishermen.

Norway states its whaling is for domestic use only. So how do they explain that their own customs officials failed to notice 3.5 metric tonnes of whale meat labelled "Norwegian Prawns" being shipped out of Fornebu airport to the "Far East" in October 1993?

Norway decided to resume commercial whaling in 1993 for "scientific and fisheries management purposes". We believe the real reason, leaked to the Norwegian Telegram Agency by an official in the Prime Minister's office, was that it was a vote winner for the Government.

It seems rather too convenient that the Norwegian Government made the decision to resume whaling just one week after an opinion poll showed substantial support for another political party in an area of the country where whaling takes place.

Despite the latest revelations about their mistakes, Norway is still insisting it can be trusted to monitor its own whaling industry. They can't even contain their own whalers, who are out whaling right now in defiance of the Norwegian Government. How can we expect them to control any other aspect of their bloody trade, let alone ensure that it is being run correctly and within the law?

For a long time now, WDOS, amongst others, has been calling for Norway's whaling activities to be closely monitored by international inspectors. So far, Norway has resisted all attempts for their sick trade to be opened up to such scrutiny. Hardly surprising when you consider what they've been getting away with!

LIES, LIES, AND YET MORE LIES

Norway has already proved that it is no respecter of international regulations on whaling. It simply makes up its own as it goes along. But then this is not surprising when it can't even be fined for the atrocities it is committing against minke whales right now. The Norwegian whalers can never be trusted again.

WILL YOU HELP US MAKE SURE THEY'RE NOT?

Get your bloody

hands off our whales, Norway!

SUPPORT OUR CAMPAIGN TO EXPOSE NORWAY

The Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDOS) is the world's largest charity devoted solely to fighting for the protection of whales and dolphins. Set up in 1987, we expose and confront those responsible for the needless slaughter and suffering of these precious and beautiful animals.

We do this by:

● Actively and vigorously campaigning for an end to all commercial and scientific whaling.

Just last year, we helped convince the IWC to agree to the adoption of the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary, dealing a mortal blow to the Japanese whaling industry.

● Remaining totally opposed to the capture of whales and dolphins for display in marine parks and working tirelessly to bring an end to it.

WDOS is currently helping to fund the release of captive dolphins in Florida. Now we're set to help release the first ever orca - Keiko - star of the film Free Willy, back into his native waters.

● Engaging public support for our campaigns to stop the deliberate killing of cetaceans, including pilot whales in the Faroes and dolphins caught in tuna nets. The boycott we helped set up against Faroes fish, has so far cost that industry £12m in lost or unplaced orders.

● Funding over 35 projects worldwide to aid whales and dolphins at risk.

In 1994 alone, Canada's Harbour Porpoise Rescue Team - just one example of a successful project supported by WDOS, saved 41 porpoises and one minke whale, from agonising deaths in netting traps.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Looking at our many activities and achievements, you may think we have a lot of money. But unlike the whaling nations, we are not rich and we are not armed. But we do have one powerful weapon - more powerful even than the electric lances, exploding harpoons and flensing knives the whalers use to decimate whales.

WE HAVE PUBLIC OPINION ON OUR SIDE.

People in this country don't want the blood of whales on their conscience. Why should we stand by and let a small minority of people flout international regulations and continue to kill whales which don't even belong to them?

Minke whales swim in British waters too. Shouldn't the people of Britain then, also have a say in their future?

LET US SPEAK UP FOR THE WHALES

There's no time to lose! The serious talking at the International Whaling Commission meeting begins on the 29th May in Dublin and only lasts for one week which is why we need your support NOW. The Norwegians have already made it abundantly clear on many occasions that they intend to start whaling on a massive scale again.

That could mean as many as 2,000 whales being killed each year by Norway alone.

How long do you think it would take for other whaling nations like Japan to follow suit?

PLEASE SEND US AN IMMEDIATE, URGENT DONATION TODAY

We'll use your gift to campaign for a better deal for all whales and dolphins. At the IWC meeting we will confront the Norwegians and demand the following concessions from them for the sake of every whale still left alive.

1. Norway must immediately stop slaughtering minke whales in the north east Atlantic.

2. Norway must fully admit in public that they got their figures wrong and should not be hunting minke whales right now.

3. Norway should be subject to an unlimited moratorium on all scientific and commercial whaling. (Ten years has been suggested - we demand a total and final ban for ever!)

LET US KNOW YOU SUPPORT US

If you agree with all of the above, then we need to hear from you by Wednesday 31st May if we're to stop the Norwegians in their tracks.

The IWC won't meet for another year. How many whales do you think Norway will get away with killing in that time? This is our only chance. Don't let us miss it!



We are legally required to protect this whale's identity. We only wish the laws on protecting whales were just as stringent.

SEND £25 AND RECEIVE A SPECIAL WDOS REPORT

If you can send £25 today we will send you a special, in-depth report of the case we will be putting to the IWC, as a thank you. Packed with facts and figures, you'll find the behind-the-scenes story of our campaign to save the minke whale from slaughter, a riveting read.

GIVE US A HAND

There's another way you can help us too. You can sign and return the "hand" on the coupon below and we'll use it to give the Norwegian whalers a message from the British public they can't ignore.

To get their hands off our whales once and for all!

DON'T LET NORWAY GET AWAY WITH MURDER!

PLEASE support WDOS with a gift for as much as you can spare today! Complete and return the coupon below immediately to:

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Thank you!

Don't let Norway get away with murder!

PLEASE REPLY BY MAY 31ST 1995

I'm with you! I won't stand by and let Norway do this to our whales.

Name: _____
(Mr Mrs Ms Miss Other)
Address: _____

Postcode: _____
Telephone: _____

I enclose a cheque/postal order (payable to WDOS) for: _____

£ _____ Please write in the amount of your gift here.

Thank you!
We want to leave it up to you to decide how much to give, but you may find the following suggestions helpful. [Please tick the box of your choice]

☐ £10 ☐ £15 ☐ £25

Give this amount and receive a full report on the case we put to the IWC

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Please return this completed coupon, together with your signed protest and gift, in an envelope to: WDOS, FREEPOST, (SN863), BATH, BA1 2XE. No stamp needed.

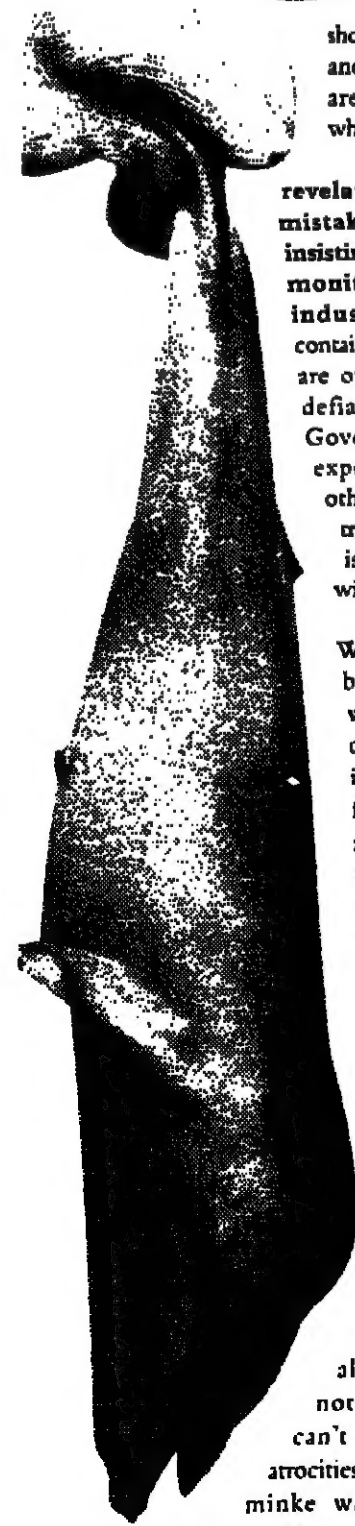
Please note that any cash sent over and above the budget by the particular appeal will be used to support the work of WDOS in areas where we feel whales and dolphins are most at risk. We can also cover more whales and dolphins by asking supporters of other organisations to make us our support is too. If you would rather we did not put on your name, in the event they please tick the box and we will honour your decision.

Please sign your name where shown and we will put up your hand of protest to prove to the Norwegian whalers that killing whales when they know they shouldn't, was the worst mistake they ever made - and one the British public are not about to let them repeat.

HANDS OFF OUR WHALES, NORWAY!

SIGNED: _____

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Blowhole of the innocent: a whale's blowhole is held up for display before being tossed onto a pile of its mother's entrails

Time to end myth of 'the faultless premiership'

I was never likely that Margaret Thatcher would settle down into the armchair of elder statesmanship. Baldwin assured his successor, Chamberlain, that he would neither spit on the deck nor interrupt the man on the bridge. But Lady Thatcher has little in common with Lord Baldwin. She owed much of her success as Prime Minister to political schizophrenia.

Throughout her years at No 10, she was one of her own Government's fiercest critics. By temperament more suited to opposition than to government, for 11½ years she managed to combine the roles. So it was inevitable that after losing her principal office, and thus deprived of an outlet for those restless, relentless energies, she should devote herself to the opposition role.

In yesterday's *Sunday Times* she says that she was determined not to behave like Ted Heath. This

was wise. Sir Edward has one achievement to show for 20 years' self-indulgence in bile, spite and childishness: the ever-increasing damage to his own reputation. But Lady Thatcher should beware Sir Edward's failures go deeper than incompetence in public relations. It is not just the inability to come to terms with losing office that has undermined him; it is his failure to admit mistakes and, to participate in an honest debate about his term in office. She is now displaying similar weaknesses.

Take Europe. Lady Thatcher tells us that "The problem with John Major's... approach was that although it initially won plaudits, it left the fundamental problems unresolved." From whom had he inherited these unresolved fundamental problems? From Margaret Thatcher. Throughout her 11½ years she never resolved the contradictions in her European policy: on the

Bruce Anderson, author of a biography of John Major, assesses the latest attack by Margaret Thatcher on her successor's policies and urges her to admit making the occasional mistake

one hand, fierce anti-federalist rhetoric, and frequent use of the handbag; on the other, regular, substantial concessions on substance.

It was she who signed the Single European Act — a far greater constitutional concession than Maastricht — and she who agreed the deal that consolidated the common agricultural policy. Charles Powell, her former foreign policy adviser, believes that she too would have agreed to a deal akin to Maastricht, had she been as successful in the negotiations as Mr Major was.

If the problems of Britain's

relationship with Europe had been simple, Margaret Thatcher would have solved them well within 11½ years. They were not, and so Mr Major had to persevere where she had failed. By 1990 her approach had exhausted itself, so the new Prime Minister was right to revert to the more orthodox formula.

Certainly, this has involved concessions: so would any European policy compatible with continued British membership of the Community. Mrs Thatcher was prepared to pay a heavy price for the single market. At Maastricht, Mr Major paid a smaller price for

enlargement. This was not a new departure. It was in a straight line of continuity with government policy since 1979, and Lady Thatcher's unwillingness to acknowledge this is unworthy of her.

But the greatest difficulty arises over inflation. If Margaret Thatcher stood for anything, it was counter-inflation, and it was her failure to deliver this most crucial objective that terminated her premiership. When John Major took over, the inflation rate was in double figures and rising. Four and a half years later it is more substantially under control than it has been for a generation.

There is one respect in which his record is not just equal to hers, but far superior.

It is also something that Lady Thatcher and her supporters are unwilling to admit. They try to divert attention by a populist attack on the exchange-rate mech-

anism. This is doubly irrelevant. First, throughout the Thatcher premiership, Britain was committed to membership of the ERM. It mattered not that Mrs Thatcher expressed private reservations. She was never able to articulate a clear alternative strategy.

Second, by 1990, inside or outside the ERM, Britain would have had to take the most unpleasant interest-rate medicine: there was no other way to reduce inflation. John Major could have dealt with the Thatcher/Lawson inflation only by a tough interest-rate regime.

As for that regrettable lapse on inflation, Lady Thatcher and her acolytes have still not worked out her defence. If she was omnipotent and omniscient, as they sometimes claim, how could it have occurred?

If on the other hand it was all the fault of her ministers and officials, how is this to be recon-

ciled with the myth of the faultless premiership? Margaret Thatcher was a great Prime Minister but she was not infallible. There were errors of omission and commission, some of them serious. She did not get to grips with Europe, any more than she did with social policy, welfare, the size of the State, or Ireland. But she also left inflation in a mess.

On the other side of the balance sheet, she did break the trade unions and transformed the public debate about taxation. She also at least halted the growth of the State and, above all, she restored national pride. Those are splendid achievements but it would be easier to see them as such if she herself did not exaggerate their scope: if she were, indeed, prepared to admit the occasional mistake.

□ *The Path to Power* (Harper-Collins: 600 pages) is published on June 12

TIM BISHOP

Autobiography sets radical European agenda

Thatcher urges Britain to veto political union

By ALICE THOMSON
POLITICAL REPORTER

LADY THATCHER'S second volume of her autobiography, *The Path To Power*, delivers a savage indictment of large areas of foreign and domestic policy. She uses the final chapter, "Beginning Again", to demand a radical agenda for Britain.

She calls for a fight to regain power for Westminster over European governing bodies: a rejection of the Maastricht Treaty; an immediate declaration of the independence of the pound; a total break with all moves towards political union; and the use of the veto to force other European Union countries to accept a Community in which Britain maintains an arms-length trading role.

She openly questions the Government's pledge to put Britain "at the heart of Europe" and says that John Major is following a European line she once derisively ascribed to Labour as "compromise, sweep it under the



Heath: critical of successor

carpet, leave it for another day. In the hope that the people of Britain will not notice what is happening to them, how the powers have been gradually slipping away". The strategy has "not even" helped to unite a divided Conservative Party and was directly responsible for the worst recession in 50 years, she says.

She criticises the move to tie the pound at an unrealistic-

ly high level to other European currencies in the exchange-rate mechanism "straitjacket", which eventually led to the humiliating and damaging withdrawal from the ERM. She says that had only one end in sight: a fully fledged superstate "with its own flag, anthem, army, parliament, government, currency and eventually — one supposes — people".

She gave warning that as the 1996 inter-governmental conference on the future of Europe draws closer, all the problems that bedevilled the Government over Maastricht will arise again and says the Government would be naive to stand by and let federalists exploit the conference. Britain must be prepared to fight its corner by "pursuing every measure of obstruction and disruption open to us".

Britain's best course now, she declares, is to seek a recast relationship with the Community, along the lines originally mooted by General de Gaulle. That would allow France and Germany to set

up a hardcore European Union without British membership, leaving Britain's trading links with Europe intact. If the other members refused the "big bang" opt-out, Britain should use its veto to block further progress towards integration.

She discusses her depression at losing office in November 1990. "Time was heavy on my hands," she says. "Work had been my elixir. Now I would have to adjust to a different pace. It was difficult to begin with... I felt an inner need to ponder on what I had made of my life and the opportunities I had been given, and on the significance of events."

On the question of her successor, she says that she was never in the business of attempting to undermine John Major. "I knew that his position was still fragile and I wanted him to succeed. I had faced sufficient difficulties with Ted Heath not to wish to inflict similar ones."

She complains about the "missing sense of purpose" in



The future looked rosy in 1992. Now Lady Thatcher complains of a "missing sense of purpose" in John Major

the Major years and says: "I was not prepared for the speed with which the position I adopted would be reversed... The problem with John Major's approach was that although it initially won plaudits, it left the fundamental problems unresolved."

But on the Tory party's continuing problems in the

polls, she says: "It is for others to take the actions required." On foreign policy she deplores the fact that the special relationship with the United States has been "allowed to cool to near freezing point".

She is also sharply critical of the direction of domestic policy, in particular on law and order, and calls for a

return to basic Tory values in family life. She claims that Britain is "moving rapidly in the wrong direction" on law and order issues and calls for a switch from welfare spending to crime prevention and detection. The book says that the rise in single-parent families without fathers has led to an increase in drug traffic.

ing, vandalism and youth gangs.

Her solution is to make benefits for single mothers conditional on their living with their parents or in supervised accommodation, and to change tax laws to encourage traditional family structures.

Clarke counter-attack, page 1

"Punctuality is the thief of time."

Oscar Wilde.

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Fairbairn furore adds to Tory by-election woes

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Tories enter the final week of the Perth and Kinross by-election facing a fresh embarrassment over allegations that the late Sir Nicholas Fairbairn, the former MP for the constituency, has a nine-year-old illegitimate son.

Party sources insisted that the reports bore no relevance to the by-election campaign and criticised the press for causing Lady Fairbairn further distress. An official said reports that the former Solicitor-General had had a child by an Australian teacher were a matter for the family rather than the party.

While none of the other parties tried to exploit the story, there was speculation that the report only days before the by-election could be part of a campaign to find a scapegoat if the Tory candidate, John Godfrey, polls badly on Thursday.

John Major sent him a letter of support yesterday in which he accused the SNP of offering Scots "nothing except a bleak future of high taxes and low spending". He wrote: "You are right to highlight the dangers of putting the Union at risk of jeopardising everything that we achieve together as part of the United Kingdom."

Yesterday all the main candidates were preparing for

television debates to be held today and tomorrow. They are seen as a big opportunity to influence the 30 per cent of voters still said to be undecided.

All eyes will also be on tomorrow's poll in *The Herald* newspaper, which is the only comprehensive survey to be carried out during the campaign. Two months ago an opinion poll carried out by the same organisation, System 3, gave the SNP nearly 50 per cent of the vote, with Labour and the Tories almost tied in second place.

The SNP lead has almost certainly dropped since then. Two telephone polls have put Labour ahead of the Tories and Labour's youthful candidate, Douglas Alexander, is confident that Labour could still win. However, it seems unlikely that he will be able to catch Roseanna Cunningham, the SNP candidate.

Veronica Linklater, the Liberal Democrat candidate, is said to be holding on to her party's vote, although it is still expected to come a poor fourth.

□ General Election: Sir N Fairbairn (C) 20,195; Miss R Cunningham (SNP) 18,101; M Rolfe (Lab) 6,267; M Black (Lib Dem) 5,714. Conservative majority 2,094.

Peers plan revolt over deregulation of signs

By JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT proposals to relax the regulation of roadside tourist signs could be blocked in the Lords by Tory owners of stately homes.

The peers, led by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, fear that the plans would produce a proliferation of unsightly signs in the countryside. A consultation paper issued last month has met with protest from conservation groups and road safety organisations, which argue that drivers could be distracted.

In a letter published in *The Times* today Lord Montagu,

president of the Southern Tourist Board, says "the dogma of deregulation is being carried too far".

Lord Montagu, whose vintage motor museum in Hampshire is a popular tourist site, says the environmental damage would become an unpleasant legacy that electors would neither forgive nor forget. He would propose a motion against the Lords and would expect many Tory peers to back him.

Letters, page 19

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THE TIMES Take a child free on a Tussauds visit



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Arizona rally highlights profound distrust of Washington

Gun lobby pledges war on Clinton's government 'thugs'

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA

A DEFIANT National Rifle Association declared war on the White House at the weekend during an annual convention in this sunbaked desert city that showed just how profoundly many heartland Americans distrust their Government.

With the national spotlight firmly on them, a string of association officials used the occasion to portray their huge organisation as the last bulwark against a repressive Government bent on destroying individual rights and freedoms. They drew roars of approval by vowing to eject President Clinton from office in 1996 just as the association's 3.4 million members helped to overturn 40 years of Democratic rule on Capitol Hill last November.

This month the rifle association has suffered some of the most withering attacks of its 124-year history. Mr Clinton and the mainstream media have seized on its portrayal of federal law enforcement agents as "jackbooted government thugs" in "Nazi bucket helmets and stormtrooper uniforms" to accuse it of fomenting the sort of anti-government hatred that led to last month's Oklahoma City bombing. President Bush even resigned his lifetime membership in disgust.

A national poll has also indicated that support among American gun owners for positions taken by the association has dropped significantly, with 47 per cent expressing overall agreement. The results of the *Time/CNN* poll of 600 gun owners indicated a drop of 20 percentage points from a December 1989 poll, which showed 67 per cent overall support for positions espoused by the group.

The poll also indicated that 49 per cent of America's gun owners favour stricter gun control laws, although 48 per cent would be less likely to vote for a candidate who favours stricter laws. Only 24

per cent of the gun owners interviewed said they thought Congress should repeal the ban on assault weapons that was passed last year, with 69 per cent in favour of keeping the ban in place.

However, leaders of the association, citing the FBI's 1993 assault on the Branch Davidians' compound at Waco, in Texas, and other cases of federal agents apparently running amok, declared at their convention that they would not be cowed by such attacks. They won the overwhelming support of the 24,000 members attending the convention and Wayne LaPierre, the association's executive vice-president, was cheered when he said that if federal agents continued to "act like thugs, then that's what we are going to call them".

Presenting the rifle association as a champion of American rights and freedoms was shrewd political positioning by the leadership, but the rank-and-file members in



A woman delegate gets to grips with a new gun.

Phoenix clearly believed it absolutely. Almost all considered recent gun control measures as the start of a concerted government effort to disarm American citizens as a prelude to destroying their basic liberties.

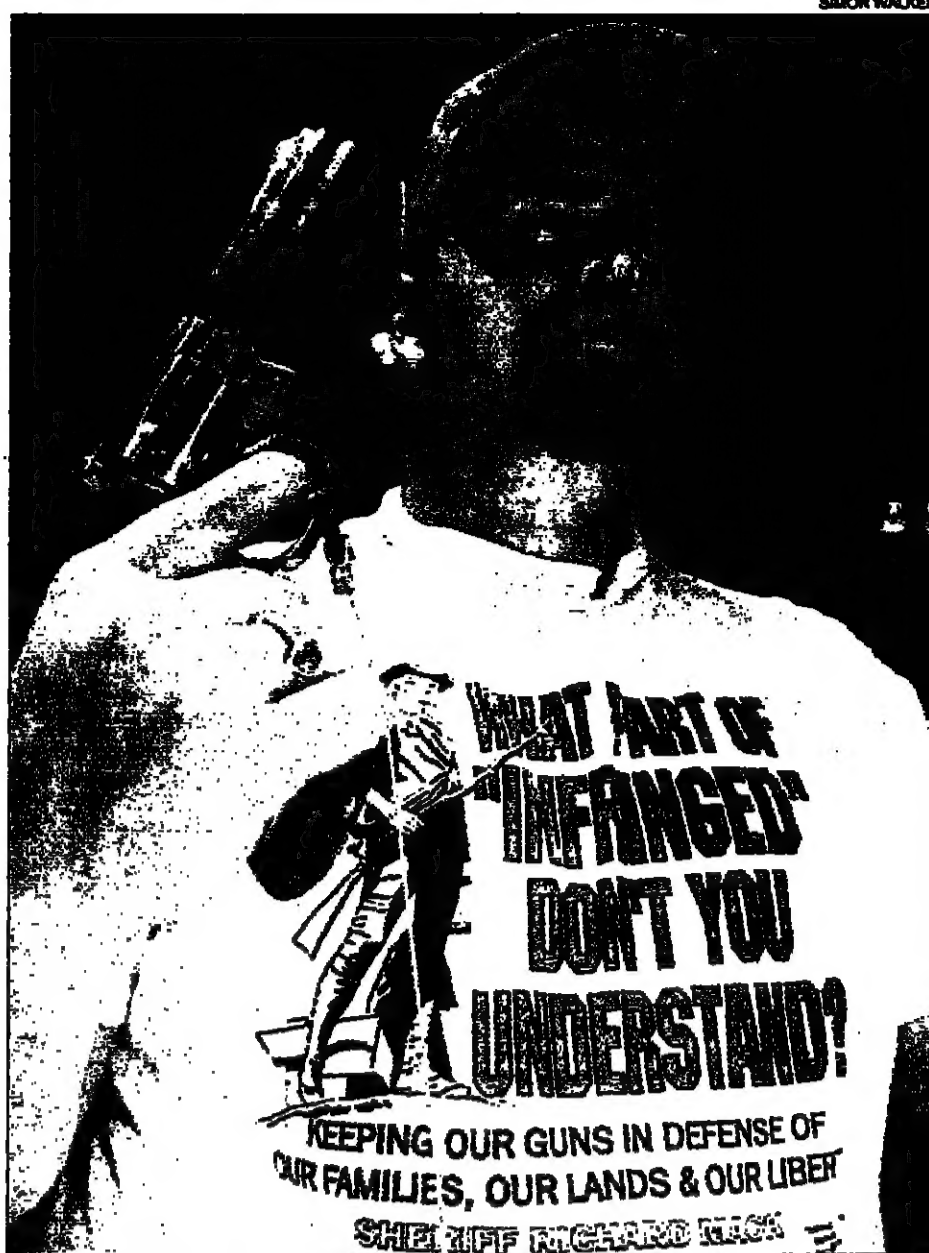
These convention delegates could not be dismissed as members of the lunatic fringe. They were teachers, police officers, mid-level managers, lawyers and small businessmen. They were almost exclusively white, came mostly from the American hinterland and were all convinced that the Government in Washington was a malign and sinister force bent on suppressing, not serving, the people. They drew comparisons with Nazi Germany, called President Clinton a "communist" or wore T-shirts that sported slogans such as: "I Love my Country, but I Fear my Government".

They described the Second Amendment to the constitution, which talks of the right to keep and bear arms, as the most sacred of all. If that was breached, a disarmed citizenry would lack the power to prevent the Government overturning the rest of the constitution.

"It keeps the despots at bay if they know there are 200 million guns out there," Don Bradway, 49, a public transport safety officer from California's Orange County, said.

The depth of these people's suspicion was baffling, but events such as the Waco siege clearly made a much bigger impression on them than anyone realised and "talk radio's" relentless anti-government diatribes have fuelled their paranoia further.

Rifle association leaders prudently distanced themselves from the citizens' militias that have sprung up across America, but the militias nevertheless had considerable grassroots sympathy. Indeed, the rifle association's Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award went to Rich-



A member of the National Rifle Association tries a weapon for size at the gun exhibition, which is staged as part of the annual convention held in Phoenix.

ard Mack, an Arizona sheriff who openly supports the militias. "It was never intended that the master feared the servant and that we the people be forced into humble submission through government intimidation," he told the convention.

The event was held in a vast new air-conditioned conference centre. There were signs at the entrances asking delegates to check in their firearms; it is legal to carry guns in Arizona as long as they are displayed openly. Inside, an exhibition of rifles and hunting equipment featuring such legendary names as Winchester, Remington and Colt occupied an area the size of several football pitches, a striking

reminder of the association's long history as primarily an organisation to promote sporting interests. The group is now overtly political and confront-

It keeps the government despots at bay if they know there are 200 million guns out there

ational. Its immediate aims are to win congressional hearings on cases such as the Waco attack and a repeal of last year's ban on assault weap-

ons. "There will be a repeal," Tanya Metaksa, the association's chief lobbyist, said, "and we will give Bill Clinton the chance to veto his presidency away."

In Washington, an FBI report published yesterday said that the American crime rate went down by 3 percentage points last year, the third successive decline. The FBI said that violent crimes reported to the police nationwide fell by 4 percentage points and property crimes dropped by 3 points.

Among violent crimes, robberies showed the biggest decline, dropping by 6 points, followed by murders and rapes at 5 percentage points and assaults at 2 points.

Security fears lead to detour at White House

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

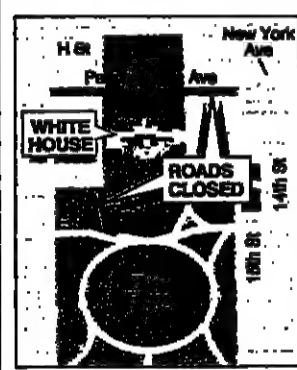
TRAFFIC no longer passes in front of America's most famous address, the White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Reluctantly agreeing to heightened security concerns following the Oklahoma City bombing, President Clinton ordered the closure of a two-block stretch of the avenue in front of the White House to all but pedestrians. He also closed a shorter stretch of road at the back gate for the same reason.

Pennsylvania Avenue has been a symbol of national openness for two centuries. George Washington insisted that the White House be a mansion modest in size and accessible to the people, not the equivalent of a monarch's palace set in a exclusive park. Until now, the avenue has stayed open despite four successful and eight unsuccessful presidential assassination attempts, the civil war, two world wars and the Gulf War.

Mr Clinton compared Saturday's unannounced arrival of concrete barricades to the installation of metal detectors at airports. He said they should be seen as a responsible security step to preserve rather than restrict freedom. When he took office, Mr Clinton promised: "I will not in any way allow the fight against domestic and foreign terrorism to build a wall between me and the American people."

Police were bracing for huge traffic jams during today's rush hour when more than 200,000 workers will fill the centre of Washington.



Chung: upset people of Oklahoma City

CBS fires woman 'anchor' who drew criticism

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

CONNIE CHUNG, only the second woman to co-host the main evening news on a US television network, has been removed from her post at CBS after antagonising Oklahoma residents while reporting the bombing.

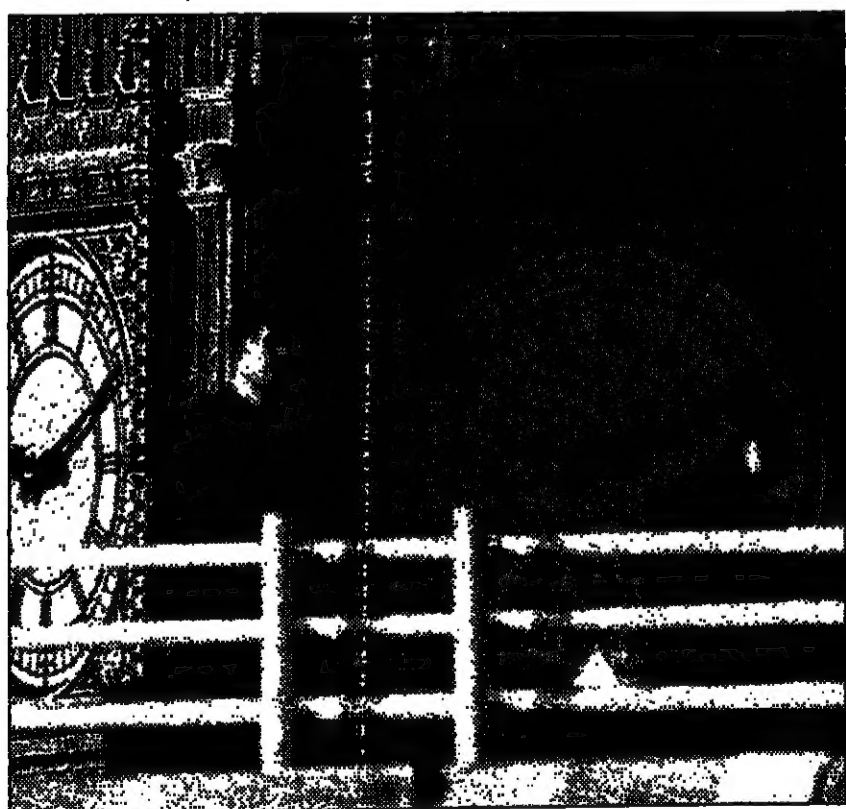
Ms Chung teamed up with Dan Rather, the veteran CBS newscaster, two years ago in an effort to revive ratings at the flagging network.

The two "co-anchors" continually bickered backstage. The latest argument came after the bomb explosion at the federal building in Oklahoma City on April 19. Mr Rather called in from holiday in the adjoining state of Texas, offering to go to the scene. Ms Chung was sent instead. Her condescending interviews with rescue workers outraged local residents and she was forced to apologise.

Now CBS executives have agreed on what had been obvious for many months: Ms Chung had failed to stop CBS evening news sliding further behind its rivals. The network removed her from the news and cancelled her weekly magazine show.

She will be remembered for persuading Newt Gingrich's mother to confide on air that the House Speaker had once called Hillary Clinton a bitch.

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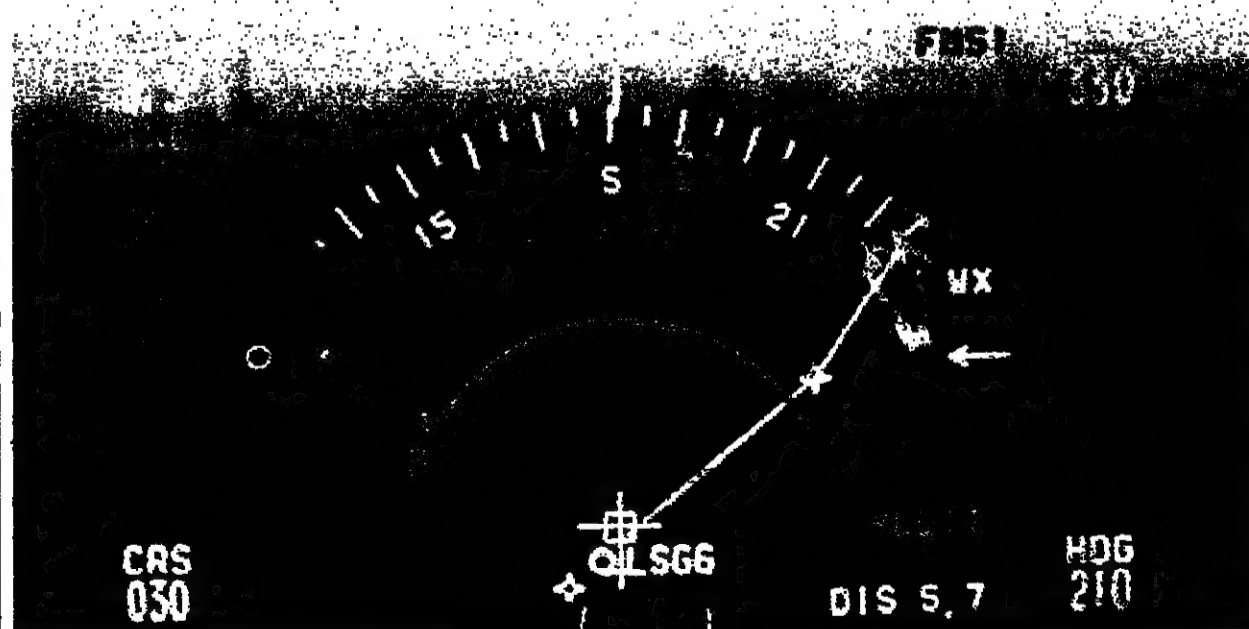
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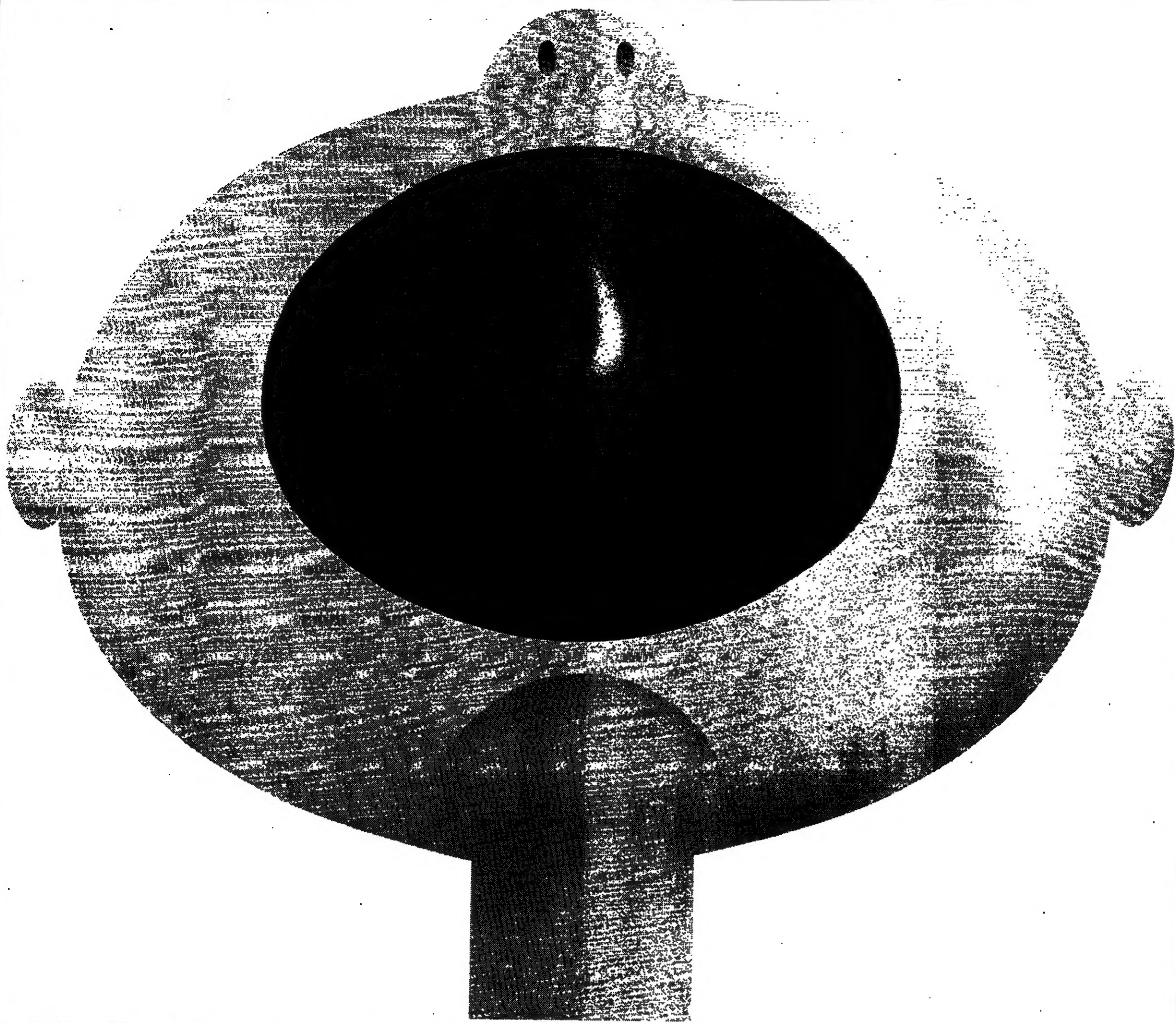
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مكتبة من الأصل

America heads off UN plan to cut Bosnia force

BY JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE United States is flexing its diplomatic muscles to block the United Nations' proposals for deep cuts in the UN force in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the abandonment of the Muslim "safe areas".

William Perry, the US Defence Secretary, travelled to UN headquarters in New York at the weekend after it emerged that the organisation was considering cutting the UN Protection Force (Unprofor) by half and dropping the "safe areas".

Mr Perry told Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, that such a dramatic cutback in the UN mission would prove "disastrous". Although the US has always refused to send ground troops to Bosnia, Washington is insisting that British and other UN troops must continue to protect Muslim civilians in the beleaguered "safe areas", such as Sarajevo and Gorazde.

In London, Ministry of Defence and Foreign Office officials met to discuss the UN proposals to reduce the size of the force in Bosnia. Ministers

are expected to give their opinion later this week and it seems likely that the Government will also reject the proposed cutbacks.

It has always been the MoD's view that if British troops were to stay in Bosnia — there are currently 3,400 deployed — they should be in sufficient numbers to function as a viable force. Cutting back

on Britain's contribution might increase, not decrease, the risks faced by those left behind.

Britain has already announced that the 500 British troops currently based in Gorazde in eastern Bosnia will not be replaced by another British unit when their tour ends in the autumn. The Foreign Office sources said it

was appropriate that there should be a reappraisal of the UN's role in Bosnia, limiting it more to humanitarian and monitoring functions.

Dr Boutros Ghali is due to present proposals on the peacekeepers' future role in Bosnia by the end of the month. UN officials now accept, however, that a drastic reduction in the UN force would be politically unacceptable and would be unlikely to pass in the Security Council, which must approve any change in the nature of the peacekeeping mission.

One Western diplomat described the idea of large troop reductions as a "manoeuvre" by the new French Government to pressure the US into forcing the Bosnian Government to renew the ceasefire that expired at the end of April.

France, the largest contributor of UN peacekeepers in the Balkans, knows that Washington does not want to see Unprofor withdrawn and is desperate to avoid having to send American troops to help extricate UN peacekeepers.



Workmen hang a cloth across a Sarajevo street to obscure it from Serb snipers yesterday. The UN has refused to protect workers erecting anti-sniper barriers.

Units not up to full strength

By MICHAEL EVANS

THE size of the United Nations force in former Yugoslavia has never reached the level authorised by the Security Council.

The present combined strength of the troops, military observers, civilian police and civilian personnel in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Macedonia is 43,926, compared with an authorised force of 50,433. UN strength in Bosnia has varied from about 20,000 to 24,000.

The biggest concentration of UN troops is in the southwest sector, which is under British command and where there are more than 7,000 soldiers deployed in central and southern Bosnia. This area is largely peaceful at present.

The units include 1,400 Spaniards in Mostar and nearby Medugorje; 650 British troops in Vitez, Goranji Vakuf and Zepce; another 500 British soldiers in Gorazde; a Turkish battalion of 1,468 in Zenica, a Muslim stronghold; and 800 Canadians in Visoko. In Sarajevo there are more than 5,000 troops from France, Egypt, Russia and Ukraine.

'Safe areas' hold troops to ransom

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN VITEZ

THE Serbs tank shell came crashing through the wall of the British United Nations base in Maglaj, exploding in the dining area, sending shards of glowing shrapnel across the room.

An hour earlier the same room had been filled with soldiers eating their evening meal. Six soldiers were wounded, one of whom nearly lost his leg.

The deliberate targeting of the temporary home of "C" Squadron of the British Cavalry Battalion coincided with the deliberate shooting of three French soldiers in Sarajevo. It is incidents like these that have prompted the UN to consider withdrawing its forces from the Bosnian "safe areas".

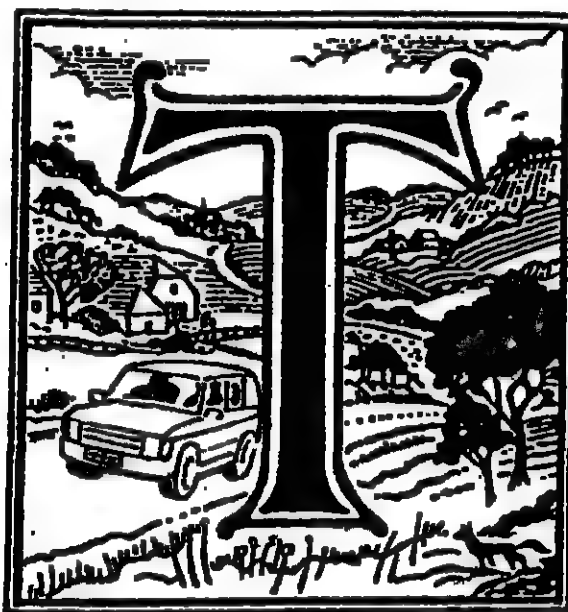
As the Bosnian war enters its fourth year without any sign of a negotiated settlement, UN forces are increasingly being targeted. The events of the past 18 months, particularly the birth of the federation between Bosnians and Croats, have undermined the initial UN mandate: the escorting of humanitarian aid to the beleaguered populace. UN troops now find themselves involved in a complex effort to splice the Bosnian and Croat communities together as part of a single viable state. The Serbs — not surprisingly — oppose such a union. Ironically, it is the "safe areas" where aid is scarce and where it is hardest for UN forces to operate. Supplying these areas is subject to the whim of the Serbs, to whom control of the enclaves is a bargaining counter with the West to counter their own slipping fortunes.

With the exception of Sarajevo and Bihac, where Bosnian forces under the command of General Alija Izetbegovic continue to hold out, the enclaves have been demilitarised, either directly by Serb action or by the UN.

Aware of the consequences of UN withdrawal, with no aid and no guarantee of Nato air cover, the enclaves would undoubtedly take matters into their own hands and force the UN to stay. Roads blocked by crowds of frightened women and children intent on preventing UN movement already have numerous precedents in Bosnia.

"If the UN goes, Srebrenica and Gorazde are finished," a Bosnian infantry officer said. "We are not yet strong enough to fight our way back to them".

If the UN is to stay in the enclaves, new troops will have to be sent to replace those now coming to the end of their tour of duty. There is already a lack of will among contributing nations to supply any further garrisons.



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Belgium's voters dash Far Right dreams of power

FROM MICHAEL DYNES IN BRUSSELS

THE extreme right-wing Vlaams Blok failed to make the electoral breakthrough widely predicted in Belgium's general election yesterday. The Centre-Left Government held its ground, winning a projected 80 of the 150 legislative seats.

The Vlaams Blok won 26.7 per cent of the vote in Antwerp, remaining the biggest party in Belgium's second largest city. Across Flanders, it won 13.1 per cent of the vote, up from 10.3 per cent in the last elections of 1991. It had been thought that popular antipathy towards immigration, unemployment, and rising levels of crime, would lead to a surge in votes for the Far Right. Widespread voter disillusionment with established parties had also been predicted, following a series of revelations that a £1 million bribe was paid to the Flemish Socialist Party by Agusta, the Italian helicopter company, in return for a £1 billion defence contract. But the scandal appears to have led to only a slight reduction in support for the Flemish Socialists. The Christian Democrat vote has held up, increasing the prospects of

a return to power by Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Prime Minister. Confident of significant electoral gains, Philippe Van Der Sande, the Vlaams Blok spokesman, earlier said: "In the last four years there has been one scandal after another, and the people are fed up with this. There has also been a rise in immigrants and crime," he added.

The Vlaams Blok had tried to exploit fears about immigration, crime and unemployment, with campaign posters calling on voters to "settle scores". People in Antwerp



King Albert: voters heeded his appeal

"are confronted with the issue of foreigners and crime," one local inhabitant said, adding: "Almost every day drug syringes have to be picked up around here." Another said: "I'm not a racist, but immigrants get jobs more easily because employers have to pay them less."

Fear of a wholesale shift to the Right in Dutch-speaking Flanders, prompted anxious appeals from prominent Belgians — including King Albert, supported by the media — for the electorate not to cast a protest ballot for the extreme Right. "These parties have no projects, except to arouse hatred and spread confrontation," *La Libre Belgique* newspaper said. That strategy appears to have paid off.

Even with an electoral breakthrough, Vlaams Blok leaders knew that intense hostility from the other parties would have excluded them from any new coalition. "We are a party capable of being in the government but the others will never let us in," Mr Van Der Sande said.

The Vlaams Blok, which advocates a separate Flemish state and stiff curbs on immi-



Homeless people, who are denied a vote in Belgium, demonstrate around Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Prime Minister, after he voted yesterday

gration, won more seats than any other party in the 1991 local elections. But a united front by the other parties kept them in opposition.

Voting was compulsory in the ballot to elect a new federal government and regional assemblies in Flanders, Wallonia and bilingual Brussels in

the first general election since Belgium became a federal state in 1993. More than 30 per cent of the electorate were still undecided how to vote two days before the ballot, making it difficult for pollsters to predict the outcome.

Both the Flemish and French Socialists were braced

for the worst. But there is growing bitterness within Socialist ranks over the high profile inquiry into the Agusta affair, which many party activists feared would deprive them of any credibility with the voters.

While welcoming Friday's decision by the judiciary to

release three party officials implicated in the scandal, Louis Tobback, the chairman of the Flemish Socialist Party, complained at the timing. "I naturally cannot say there was a plot, but if they had wanted to damage the Socialist Party they could not have done a better job," he said.

Brussels: Queen Fabiola queued for over an hour to vote because of delays blamed on polling booths being too small and chains on official pens being too short to reach across huge ballot papers. (Reuters)

EU watchdog hounds fraudsters

BY MICHAEL DYNES

IF THE amount of subsidised butter exported to the tiny Pyrenean country of Andorra under the European Union's common agricultural policy was actually consumed there, every Andorran citizen would have to eat three and a half pounds of butter a day.

EU Economic and Finance Ministers meet in Brussels today to put the final touches to new "administrative sanctions" designed to stamp out this and other so-called "irregularities", which have enabled fraudsters to deprive the European taxpayer of billions of pounds every year with impunity.

The new rules will apply to the EU's entire £67 billion annual budget, and should enable European Commission officials to reclaim funds without having to prove criminal intent in the domestic courts.

Individuals who claim EU funds to which they are not entitled, whether by

error or fraud, will also be required to pay interest, a fine of up to 15 per cent of the sum involved, and could find themselves banned from claiming EU funds in the future. New criminal sanctions are also in the pipeline.

The initiative is in part a response to a recent report by the European Court of Auditors, the EU spending watchdog, which attacked Brussels for weak internal audit procedures. Brussels has traditionally insisted that national governments are responsible for stamping out fraud. But the auditors' report heavily criticised officials for their "fire and forget" attitude towards spending programmes, as if their responsibility for EU funds ended once the money was paid out.

As a result, Brussels has helped fund a variety of dubious schemes, including a 28-mile motorway near Naples which came in 1,160 per cent over budget, without questioning the overspend. In one

celebrated case, which still holds the Brussels "can you beat this for brass neck" award, investigators discovered that a consignment of wheat had been unloaded from the bow of a ship in Hamburg harbour, and then reloaded in the stern so that the shipping company could claim a subsidy from the CAP for cereals exported from German soil.

But the anti-fraud initiative is also a response to the growing recognition among ministers and officials alike that such scandals are eroding popular support for the EU. In March, the Commission reported that fraud cases had risen sharply over the past year, from 2,538 to 4,166, while the cost of fraud had risen from £300 million to £800 million. Critics insist that the real figure is ten times that. But while the Commission rejects these claims as exaggerated, it has been forced to admit that only a fraction of the total fraud is detected.



The Pope: he will visit his native Poland today

Pope seeks forgiveness

OLIMONCE The Pope, speaking in the Czech Republic, asked forgiveness in the name of Roman Catholics yesterday for wrongs inflicted by the church on other churches.

He made the plea here as he canonised Jan Sarkander, a priest martyred during the 17th-century religious struggles. He said: "I ask forgiveness for the wrongs inflicted on non-Catholics during the turbulent history of these peoples." Today the Pope will visit his native Poland. (Reuters)

Berlusconi condemns 'baseless' tax charges

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN ROME

THE simmering feud between Silvio Berlusconi, the former Italian Prime Minister, and the pool of anti-corruption magistrates has reached boiling point after a decision at the weekend that the media magazine should answer corruption charges.

The Milanese judges applied on Saturday to summon Signor Berlusconi to court to face charges that he made illicit payments to officials to avoid taxes on companies in his Fininvest group. However, Signor Berlusconi, who underwent a minor hernia operation, said the authorities were acting on the basis of a "theorem without proof".

"Ever since I entered the political arena to try and improve public life in this country there has been a political prejudice against me," he said in yesterday's edition of the *Corriere della Sera*. "The judges have nothing," he added. Giuliano Ferrara, Signor Berlusconi's former government spokesman, rushed to his defence with a damning attack on the celebrated Milanese "clean

hands" judges in the newspaper *La Stampa*: "The truth is that they want to banish Silvio Berlusconi from political life."

However, the magistrates, including Francesco Severino Borrelli, the chief prosecutor, made no comment yesterday over their application to bring Signor Berlusconi, 57, to trial.

The conflict between the media magnate and the judges dates back to his seven-month term as Italian Prime Minister. Last July, Signor Berlusconi's Government passed a law making it more difficult for magistrates to detain suspects in corruption cases, a move that prompted the Milanese judges to resign en masse. The magistrates withdrew their resignation when Signor Berlusconi climbed down over the decree, but the first shots had been fired.

The judges subsequently began to close the net around the Fininvest group and on July 23 one of the group's senior tax officials told them of the tax bribes allegedly authorised by Paolo Berlus-

coni, Silvio's brother. This information prompted an investigation which led to Saturday's request that both brothers face charges of complicity in corruption, along with members of the police. Some officers of the force are already being tried for similar offences involving other companies in Brescia.

The allegations revolve around three companies, which supposedly handed a total of more than 330 million lire (£130,000) to evade taxes. Signor Berlusconi has constantly maintained that the affair involved extortion by public officials rather than fraud committed by the companies. He said the fact that the prosecutor had waited until the six-month deadline to ask for the case to be brought to court was "proof that there are no witnesses against me or documents that accuse me".

Judicial officials said a further charge was pending, concerning a payment of 50 million lire by Telepiu, the pay-TV channel that Fininvest controls as a minority shareholder.

Cossacks prepare to ride again in defence of Russia

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S notorious Cossacks, the fierce horsemen who defended the country's borders against invaders and helped the tsars to create an empire, are ready to mount up once more in the service of their country.

For the first time since the last Cossacks were defeated by the Bolsheviks — to face exile and persecution under Stalin — the frontiersmen are to be rehabilitated and are expected to be reintegrated into the armed forces.

"The Cossacks have remained a real force," said Viktor Mironov, a parliamentarian who is drawing up a Bill next month for the reinstatement of the seven Cossack armies in the military. "Our aim is to restore a united movement... to guard our state." The issue is to come up next week at a meeting of the powerful Presidential Security Council, when a report will recommend that the Cossacks be given responsibility for guarding key border areas.

The Cossacks emerged in the late 15th century as former serfs, misfits and adventurers who escaped the Kremlin's authority by establishing settlements on Russia's frontiers. Although they lived as free men, the Cossacks had to defend the borders from attacks by Tartars, Turks and other invaders.

Catherine the Great brought them under her control by offering them tax exemption in exchange for military service, a patronage that lasted until 1917 when most Cossacks fought against

the Bolsheviks until they were defeated in 1923.

In a recent letter to President Yeltsin, the Council of Atamans, the Cossack chiefs, offered to provide a Kremlin honour guard for the Russian leader. Reinstating the Cossacks as an institution could be dangerous, however. While the romantic image of Cossack life, made famous in Mikhail Sholokhov's epic, *And Quiet Flows the Don*,



A Cossack soldier in the Second World War

portrays the Cossacks as a pioneering and noble community, their exploits in today's Russia have been far less honourable.

The Cossacks have emerged as mercenaries in ethnic conflicts from Tajikistan to Chechnya, Abkhazia, Moldova and even the former Yugoslavia; and seven Cossack chiefs are under investigation for links with organised crime.

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Tehran hints at lifting of Rushdie death sentence

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENSE CORRESPONDENT

ENCOURAGING signs that the Iranian Government may take positive steps towards lifting a six-year-old death sentence on the author Salman Rushdie emerged yesterday when it was reported that \$2 million (£1.27 million) bounty for killing him may be withdrawn.

There was also confirmation from Iranian officials that the Government of President Rafsanjani was not going to send death squads to seek Mr Rushdie who has lived under police protection since 1989. The death sentence was issued in a fatwa by the late Ayatollah Khomeini after Mr Rushdie was accused by Muslims of writing blasphemy in his book *The Satanic Verses*.

The Iranian Government is making it known that it is open to any form of bounty being offered for Mr Rushdie's death and that it plans to repeat warning to Muslims to obey the laws of the country which they live in. The new signals a more conciliatory approach towards Mr Rushdie, it is possible that 15th Khomeini, an organisation believed to be linked to Iran's Ministry of Intelligence and the principal body involved in offering bounty, may be ordered to cancel the price tag.

The last softer language from Iran comes after European Union foreign ministers last month agreed for the first time to pressure Iran to make Europe exempt from the fatwa, which would allow Mr Rushdie to move, without fear for his life. It seems the Iranian Government is trying to respond positively to the EU's move, principally to ensure that Europe does not follow the United States in imposing trade sanctions. It is in Tehran's interests to sound more conciliatory to European gov-

■ Iran's fear that the European Union might follow America's lead over sanctions may have encouraged Tehran to adopt a more conciliatory tone over Salman Rushdie

ernments, particularly now its economy is in serious disarray.

Although Mr Rushdie would always face the risk of an extremist taking action in respect of Tehran's wishes, the signals from Iran were welcomed yesterday by the human rights group campaigning on the author's behalf. Frances D'Souza, the executive director of Article XIX, which helped to persuade the French Government to take up the Rushdie case as an EU matter, said: "Tehran is putting out a new line on Salman Rushdie and the fatwa and this is very important. This doesn't mean the whole thing is going to be resolved now but positive steps are being made."

Last night Mr Rushdie made it known that he would

not comment until there was firm confirmation of the latest reports.

The Foreign Office, which agreed last month to the EU approach to Tehran but has remained sceptical of Iranian intentions, did not dismiss the latest reports yesterday. Whitehall sources said, however, that there was still nothing official about a softer line being taken towards Mr Rushdie. "We're waiting for an official response to the EU démarche," one source said.

The Foreign Office also said that remarks made in Tehran did not directly affect the safety of Mr Rushdie. Previous public and private statements in Tehran had not changed London's assessment that Mr Rushdie's life remained threatened by Islamic death squads.

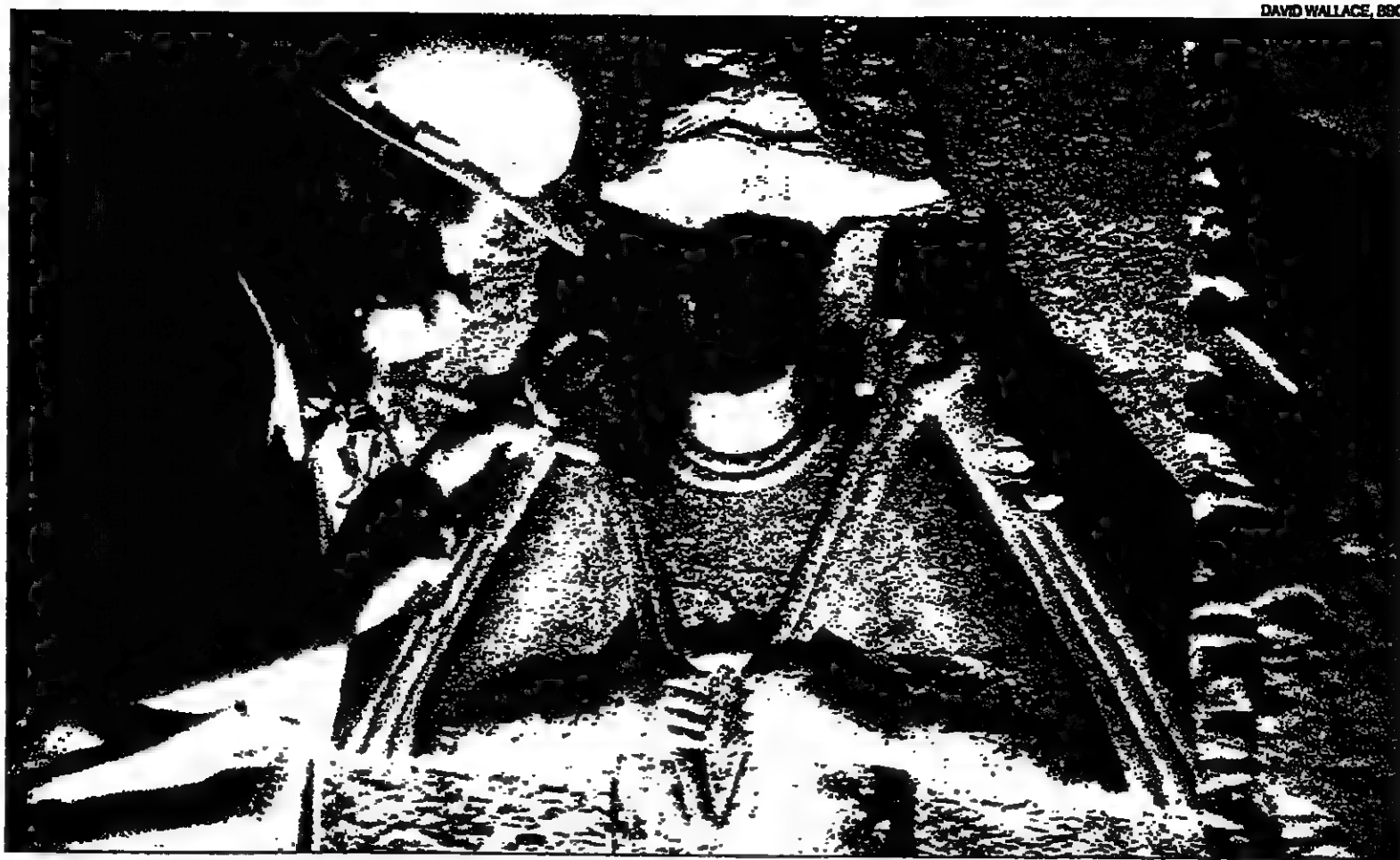
It is also not yet clear whether the apparent softer approach is supported by the hardline clerics who have previously said that the fatwa can never be lifted.

Britain has not been in the forefront of diplomatic approaches to Tehran because the Government believes that Iran cannot be rewarded for lifting the fatwa by being offered more trade or better relations with London. "They are not going to be rewarded for lifting something which they shouldn't have imposed in the first place," one source said.

Better relations between Iran and Britain depend on a number of changes, including Tehran's support for international terrorism and its disavowal of the Middle East peace process.



Rushdie: death squads called off by Tehran



This statue of Osiris, god of the underworld, lies in a shrine at the end of the main passageway of the tomb complex in the Valley of the Kings

Pharaonic trove may have been looted

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

EGYPTOLOGISTS examining a tomb in the Valley of the Kings, which is believed to be the burial chamber for 50 sons of Ramesses II, think it is the biggest pharaonic burial chamber yet found. Further studies are expected to confirm the status of KV5, which was uncovered by American archaeologists in February.

They found 67 chambers containing fragments of sarcophagi and mummies, inscribed stone vessels, pottery and jewellery and residues of cooked meats.

"This is an important find,"

Vivian Davies, keeper of Egyptian antiquities at the British Museum in London, said: "It is extraordinary that this tomb had been known about for so long, because the findings were so unexpected. It also makes you think about what else might be there."

There is evidence that the tomb was looted in ancient times. A Turin papyrus records an unsuccessful raid around 1150 BC, a century after the reign of Ramesses II. The tomb entrance was discovered last century but its contents were not investigated until Howard Carter, who



led the team that discovered Tutankhamun's tomb, were thwarted by debris blocking entry to all but three front chambers. The galleries lying behind are laid out in a T-shape, with 20 chambers along the stem of the "T". A shrine to Osiris, the god of the underworld, lies at the top of this main passageway. More chambers lie in the arms of the T, and stairways lying at the end of the arms indicate that lower levels may harbour unexplored chambers.

Professor Kent Weeks, from the American University in Cairo, whose team uncovered the tomb, said that the galleries contained objects proving that many of Ramesses's sons were buried there. Amonherkhepeshef, the eldest son of Ramesses, is one of the pharaoh's children who is known to be buried in KV5. Only two

of Ramesses's 52 named sons are known to be buried elsewhere. The mummy of Merenptah, the thirteenth son and eventual heir to Ramesses's throne, lies in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. The supposed tomb of Khamsu was found two years ago in Saqqara, near the capital. That leaves 49 sons who may be interred with Amonherkhepeshef in KV5. Ramesses, who claimed to have fathered more than 100 children, came to the throne in 1279 BC and reigned for more than 60 years. He is said to have been the pharaoh of the Exodus, whose reluctance to let the Israelites go was eroded by a series of plagues.

Arabs unite for land seizure summit

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER
IN JERUSALEM

ARAB leaders are to hold a mini-summit later this week over Israeli moves to confiscate 133 acres of mainly Palestinian-owned land in east Jerusalem.

The meeting in Morocco of nine members of the 22-member Arab League will be the largest gathering since August 1990, when a chaotic summit involving

the hurling of cutlery by rival delegates was held in Cairo after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Since then the deep divisions created by the Gulf War have been an obstacle to Arab unity.

One east Jerusalem-based diplomat said: "By threatening to grab land in that part of Jerusalem captured from Jordan in 1967 and subsequently annexed, the Israelis have succeeded in doing what seemed impossible: enabled the Arabs to

forget their differences sufficiently to organise a gathering on something on which they can all agree."

Abdelbadi Boutaleb, an envoy for King Hassan of Morocco, said the meeting would be held as a "prelude to a full summit". Those attending include Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Syria, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Dissidents arrested in Peking

By JONATHAN MURSKY

IN THE latest of a series of arrests of leading dissidents, police yesterday detained Wang Dan, one of the top student leaders of the 1989 pro-democracy protests.

The detention brought to at least five the number of dissidents held. One of those arrested this week-end was Huang Xiang, a poet who has spent several years in jail for his poems attacking political suppression during the late 1970s. It was one of 45 people to signed a letter last week demanding that President Jiang Zemin and Li Peng, the Prime Minister.

The letter called for an end to political persecution and demanded the release of those detained after the 1989 Tiananmen protest. Repression of critics could keep China backward, they said.

In addition to Mr Wang, Mr Huang and Zhang Jing, his wife, the police detained Liu Xiaobo, a leading academic who was imprisoned after Tiananmen, Wang Xiaobe, who received a 14-year sentence in the Democracy Wall period of the late 1970s; the activists have been told to leave Peking.

Deportees clash in Hong Kong

FROM JONATHAN MURSKY IN HONG KONG

ELEVEN THOUSAND Vietnamese boat people — half the total number in Hong Kong — and more than 2,000 security officers clashed over the weekend in the worst violence in the colony since the Red Guard rampages of the Cultural Revolution.

By last night the smell of teargas lingered in villages near the camp from which the remaining detainees are likely to be moved this week. About 200 people were injured, mostly police, as the Vietnamese refused to allow 1,700 fellow detainees to be transferred from Whitehead Detention Centre to High Island camp — the last stop before planes for Hanoi. The inmates hurled teargas canisters back at police, pelted them with rocks and bottles and speared one officer through the foot.

At least 27 Vietnamese were injured, including one pregnant woman, and a baby was severely burnt by teargas. At least 1,000 rounds of gas were fired.

The operation was briefly suspended on Saturday night. Officers tried to withdraw, leaving many Vietnamese on their roofs wrapped in SOS banners and old orange and yellow flags of South Vietnam.

But the fighting continued through the night and fresh officers relieved their exhausted colleagues yesterday morn-

ing. Bonnie Wong, an assistant commissioner of police, conceded that the assault team of 2,000 had not been prepared for all the Vietnamese in the camp to resist the move. They smashed down interior chainlink fences and permitted at least 600 of the likely deportees to run into neighbouring sections.

It took the authorities most of yesterday afternoon to find them again.

Lawyers connected to Refugee Concern, a prisoner-support group, protested in a letter to the Governor, Chris Patten, who had praised the operation, about the use of gas, and suggesting consultation rather than police violence. "Someone is going to get killed very soon," one of the lawyers said.

Last April almost 300 Vietnamese were injured in a similar operation that was at first covered up. An official report justified the police action but conceded it had been too violent.

The 22,000 remaining boat people are the single biggest domestic political problem in Hong Kong, which has spent vast sums on their upkeep. Most people here want them deported no matter what.

The problem deepened last week when news reached the camps that the American Congress is considering admitting 20,000 Vietnamese refugees.

Hariri at helm again in Lebanon

Beirut Rafik Hariri yesterday began a second term as Lebanese Prime Minister, two days after resigning because of deep divisions within his Cabinet. Mr Hariri won the backing of 75 out of parliament's 128 deputies and is expected to form a more united government this week. (Reuters)

Sect 'confession'

Tokyo: Members of the Aum Shinrikyo sect have confessed to making sarin nerve gas and using it on the subway under orders from Shoko Asahara, their leader, the Japanese media reported. (Reuters)

'Dragon' found

Peking: Archaeologists have named 240 million-year-old reptile fossils they have found the "Guizhou dragon" because they resemble the mythical beast. The largest is 15m long and 3m wide. (Reuters)

Taliban defeat

Argandale: Afghan forces loyal to President Rabbani have blunted the threat from Taliban, the Islamic student army, by taking a strategic position 20 miles south of Kabul. (AFP)

Small wonder

Peking: A Chinese artist has produced a painting of chrysanthemums the size of a match head after 1,000 attempts in five years using a microscopic brush. The Xinhua news agency said. (AP)

Rebels undermine India's ruling party

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIA's governing Congress Party, derailed by electoral disasters and internal feuds, has been shaken by the formation of a breakaway group that claims to be the "real" Congress.

With general election less than a year away, the party's prospects have never been bleaker.

The rebels' aim is to capture the pay machine and oust P.V. Narasimha Rao, the Prime Minister, who became leader after the 1990 assassination of Rajiv Gandhi. The Congress reduced Mr Rao to the caretaker leader of an embattled Government.

Tens of thousands of grassroots Congress members braved the Delhi heat on Friday, near nine hours of speeches attacking Mr Rao and his son — a humiliating

spectacle for a once-unassailable party which led India to independence and which has ruled it for all but a few brief periods since.

The parliamentary party remains intact, although the split in the organisational structure is bound to shake it. The rebels elected Narain Dutt Tiwari, a veteran politician from the influential northern state of Uttar Pradesh, as their "President". Congress is now effectively two organisations, Congress (Rao) and Congress (Tiwari). The dispute may eventually go to the courts.

The clash is not on the scale of Indira Gandhi's division of Congress in 1978, which was designed to reassert her control over the organisation. The implications are far-reaching, however, because the party is



Sonia Gandhi: pressed to play a greater role

so weak. Friday's rally, held in a city stadium, was an impressive show of grassroots rebellion, although it failed to attract sufficient support from MPs to achieve a takeover. The invisible presence of

Sonia Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi's widow, was felt as the crisis unfolded last week.

She wields substantial influence over the party, albeit reluctantly, and is under constant pressure to take a public stand to save the organisation from its seemingly inescapable decline.

Mrs Gandhi is the only potentially unifying symbol the party has. She has rejected all attempts to draw her into politics and lives aloof in a large government-owned house in Delhi, where she devotes herself primarily to perpetuating the memory of her husband.

□ Karachi: Masked gunmen fought police and paramilitary forces in Karachi yesterday (Zahid Hussain writes). The unrest was prompted by the killing of members of the opposition Mohajir Qaumi movement by troops.

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Astronomers take a sideways view □ A new way to measure the age of trees □ Why the people of Herculaneum never needed a dentist



FROM today, the rings of Saturn are edge-on when viewed from Earth. For the next few months, astronomers have an opportunity that arises only once every 15 years or so to observe the planet unblinded by the light from the rings.

Two astronomers eager to exploit the opportunity are Dr Carl Murray and Dr Mitch Gordon, of Queen Mary and Westfield College in London. Last year, they reported the possible existence of seven previously-unknown moons of Saturn, to add to the 18 already known.

They discovered the moons by painstakingly sifting through 20,000 images of Saturn sent back more than ten years ago by the Voyager 2 spacecraft. Since then they have had second thoughts, and reduced the number they are claiming to five — but if they turn out to be right, they will be the first UK-based astronomers to detect a satellite since Philibert Melotte, of the Royal Greenwich Observatory, discovered Pasiphae, a moon of Jupiter, in 1908.

All eyes turn to Saturn



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

"These are very small satellites and they are far too faint to be seen on a regular basis from Earth," says Dr Murray. To try to confirm their existence, the two astronomers will be making long exposures of the planet with the 4.2-metre William Herschel telescope in Las Palmas, hoping that some of the images will contain tiny dots representing moons which are no more than about 20-30 kilometres across.

The event that begins today is a known as a ring-plane crossing. Of the 18 known moons of Saturn,

13 of them have been discovered at such times. Dr Murray says. But oddly, the disappearance of the rings is also a good chance to learn more about them. When the glare of the main rings disappeared in 1966 and 1980, a whole new diffuse ring — the E ring — and five new moons were discovered.

The planets of Saturn lie in the same plane as the rings, so their orbits will also be edge-on to us. This provides a chance to watch them passing in front of one another. In 1997, the Cassini-Huygens spacecraft will be launched on a roundabout

route to Saturn, where it is due to arrive in 2004. One part of the probe is designed to be detached and land by parachute on Titan, the most fascinating of Saturn's moons.

Dr Murray plans to watch this summer as the moon Dione passes in front of Titan. "There is a new infra-red camera attached to the Herschel telescope, and if we watch at the right wavelength, and know at any moment where Dione is, we should be able to use the information to get a more precise map of the southern hemisphere of Titan. This will then be used to plan the landing site for the Huygens probe."

Titan has a thick atmosphere made up of nitrogen and methane, and may have oceans of liquid ethane and methane. Pictures taken by the Hubble space telescope show that it also has a mysterious feature about the size of Australia on its surface, but whether this is ocean or continent remains obscure. Until the satellite arrives in 2004, it is unlikely that all the questions can be answered, but this year's ring-plane crossing will give astronomers a start.

Branch lines



WORKING out the age of ancient trees while they are still standing has long been a matter of guesswork, but now the Forestry Commission reckons it has devised a much more reliable method. It involves no drilling or cutting, so is ideal for prize specimens too precious to be damaged.

The method, described by the commission's research dendrologist John White in the current issue of *Tree News*, depends on measuring the girth of the tree at breast height. So long as the tree is alive, this dimension increases every year, but not at a consistent rate. Not only can poor seasons reduce the growth rate, but a tree also goes through different cycles of growth at different ages.

Much of the research has been done on oak in England, which shows a very consistent pattern. For about the first tenth of their life-span, oaks produce wide, even growth rings, but then, when their

crown is fully-developed, they shift gear. From then on, the rings tend to become narrower, simply because the amount of new wood produced by a fixed crown is spread over a larger area. In old age, rings decline even further. While the tree stands, of course, none of this can be seen, but the patterns have enabled the commission's experts to prepare tables from which age can be calculated by knowing the species, its setting, and its girth at breast height.

Grin tidings



THE people of Herculaneum, who met a sticky end when Vesuvius erupted in 79AD, at least went to their untimely graves with healthy teeth. An Italian team of dentists and pathologists say that despite a diet rich in honey, the remains of 53 skeletons from Herculaneum it has examined show little evidence of tooth decay. The secret was a water supply containing plenty of fluoride.

The team, led by Dr Gina Fornaciari, of the University of Pisa, has studied 1,275 teeth from the people who died when Herculaneum was overwhelmed along with Pompeii. Only 49 of the teeth showed decay, the scientists report in *The Lancet*.

This is a much lower proportion than in other ancient populations, and barely a third of the decay suffered by people in Roman Britain. The team is convinced that fluoride was responsible because many of the teeth show the kind of changes which can be caused by excessive amounts of fluoride.

Measurements of the amount of fluoride in the tooth enamel also produce very high values, a finding supported by the fact that there is a lot of fluoride in the water-bearing strata at Herculaneum. There is, however, little in the soil, ruling out contamination.

Just two of the skeletons failed to show high fluoride levels. These, the authors speculate, were the unluckiest victims of all: members of the Roman aristocracy who happened to be staying at their villas in Herculaneum the very day Vesuvius erupted.

The biologist who found a wider stage

Hugh Aldersey-Williams talks to Dr Nancy Lane about advising Whitehall, and Tom Stoppard's plays

As a postgraduate at Oxford, Nancy Lane would leave her laboratory where she was working on the nerve cells of molluscs, to rehearse with her OUDS contemporaries such as Michael York, Terry Jones, Esther Rantzen and Oliver Ford Davis. "I think all the others were arts students," she recalls, "and with much more flexible timetables than mine. It meant I had to try to be incredibly efficient. I would rip back from rehearsals to finish off my work late in the evening."

"The other actors didn't consider me as a scientist. They accepted me as one of the gang." She went on to be a research scientist, specialising in intercellular junctions in invertebrates, but believes her experience in the theatre has been immensely helpful as a lecturer. "You learn how to handle yourself on a stage. I think all academics should have that experience — at the moment they get no training at all in lecturing. And, of course, speaking your own words, rather than a playwright's, adds to the tension."

Dr Lane was born in Nova

Scotia, in Canada, to a civil servant father and school-teacher mother. Neither was a scientist. She was an all-rounder at school and, fortunately for her, the Canadian high school system did not force the early specialisation that occurs here. "Somehow I felt, rightly or wrongly, that I could keep up arts subjects on my own at university, but not the science because it is so technical."

After Oxford, she studied briefly in America and then gained a fellowship at Girton College, Cambridge, in 1968 and has been doing research in the university's Department of Zoology ever since. She met her husband, Richard Perham, "over an electron microscope" shortly after arriving (he is now a professor and head of the Biochemistry Department).

She did not drop out when she had children, taking only five months' maternity leave in all for the births of her daughter and son. "I knew that if I left for longer then someone else would take over the position. One had to throw oneself back into lab work." It was particularly tough, she

admitted, since her son, Quentin, has cerebral palsy.

Her life as a career scientist and mother widened in the 1980s. One day she read in a newspaper that the Society of West End Theatres was looking for judges to serve on the Olivier Awards panel. "They wanted people to write in and say what plays they'd seen. So I did." She was a judge from 1988-90. "I must have seen around 110 different performances over that time. I hardly missed a play. I would work on the train coming down, go to the theatre, then work again going home." David Hare's *Racing Demon*, the first in his trilogy, won an award. "I admire his writing," she says. "He wishes that Tom Stoppard's *Armadillo* had been on then. "It is such an interesting commentary on the maths that gave rise to chaos theory. And splendidly he gives the gift of mathematics to a girl."

She so enjoyed her trips to London, and the sense of participating in a wider life than the university, that, on the suggestion of a friend who worked in the City, she allowed her name to go forward to headhunting firms specialising in filling non-executive directorships. She is now a non-exec with Smith & Nephew, the international healthcare company which manufactures state-of-the-art wound dressings, plaster casts, and orthopaedic devices such as artificial hips. "Academics so often don't appreciate the need to generate wealth and make market-



Dr Nancy Lane working in her laboratory at Cambridge: she says she has found her acting experience an invaluable help in the lecture theatre

able products, while businessmen frequently don't understand the need for fundamental research," she says.

It was as result of this new involvement in commerce, she assumes, that the chief executive of Boots rang her in Washington at the National Institutes for Health, where she was collaborating on research to find an animal model for Alzheimer's disease, and asked her to join John Major's advisory panel on the Citizen's Charter.

"Suddenly, I was flung into the Cabinet Office with frequent meetings with this huge team of civil servants on the Citizen's Charter." Talking to the Prime Minister, she mentioned the forthcoming White Paper on science policy and

hoped it would have something to say about making science more attractive to women and encouraging employers to get rid of glass ceilings.

Mr Major took her comment to heart. Even though the mandarins thought that evidence of a shortage of women in science could be merely anecdotal, wheels were set in motion to gather hard data. Dr Lane went on to chair the working party on women in science, engineering and technology which resulted in its report, *The Rising Tide*, early last year.

As many girls start off doing biological science as boys, she says, but science teachers

appeared to spend more time on the boys. At every stage of secondary and tertiary education, a proportion of women drop out. The same attrition is visible in career science. Dr Lane's younger female research colleagues complain that they find too few openings.

Only one senior academic researcher in ten is a woman: only one in 50 becomes a professor. One of the report's practical consequences is a small unit in the Cabinet Office whose job is to monitor the progress of women in science. It has begun assembling a central catalogue of databases of women doing reasonably senior work in science, engineering and technology, so that there can be no excuse for not having women

represented on advisory boards and quangos. It will also liaise with Opportunity 2000, which is encouraging employers to make sure that women are not overlooked for promotion.

Dr Lane has recently been to hear the actress Fiona Shaw delivering a lecture in Cambridge on the challenge of playing different parts. She

could surely have given it herself, for she is now collaborating with a television screen writer on a soap with a scientific theme and, of course, lots of parts for women. But first she is off to David Hare's *Skyline*, the new production of *The Plough and the Stars*, and "I must see Fiona Shaw playing Richard II at the National".

A giant heart to our galaxy

Does a black hole lie at the centre of our galaxy? Nature, by providing its own zoom lens, may soon enlighten us.

The centre lies about 27,000 light years from Earth. Visible light coming from the heart of the galaxy is no good to astronomers because it is absorbed by dust shrouding the galactic centre. But infrared light and radio waves, both of which have longer wavelengths than visible light, can pierce the dust and tell us at least a little about the depths from which they emerge. This is where the excitement begins.

By far the most furious radio emitter at the Milky Way's heart is a celestial object that astronomers have christened Sagittarius A*, or SA for short. SA appears to anchor everything else in the galaxy, including an estimated 100 billion stars, and could measure anything up to 10 AU across (1 AU is the Earth-Sun distance). SA is the only object in our galaxy which appears to be at rest with respect to everything else around it.

In the early Seventies, British astronomers suggested that SA might be a black hole. The strong radio waves emitted could be the death throes of gas that whizzes round the holes before being sucked in.

The black hole would have formed, say astronomers, in much the same way as any

A natural 'zoom lens' may provide evidence that a huge black hole lies at the centre of the Milky Way

other black hole. A star near the galactic centre would have collapsed, leaving a core the size of several suns. "This would have quickly swelled to perhaps millions of solar masses as nearby stars were swallowed up."

The problem is that astronomers cannot simply point to a greedy void in the galaxy and pronounce it a black hole. The beasts cannot be seen at any wavelengths because nothing, not even light, can escape their gargantuan gravitational pull.

And rather than sprawling their huge masses over detectable distances, black holes are incredibly small and compact. The only ones that researchers point to with any confidence are those which produce an effect on nearby objects.

The most promising candidates tend to be one partner in a binary system. The companion star steadily loses material to the black hole, but this material does not get sucked in straightaway. It spirals in

gradually, producing distinctive high energy signals, mainly X-ray.

Such signals have been spotted coming from the galactic centre. Furthermore, they can be traced back with good accuracy to SA, leading to the assumption that material is circling SA at great speed. And there, astronomers insist, you have it. SA must be a black hole. And, because SA is the only galactic object to stay still with respect to everything else, it must be an absolutely enormous black hole to boot.

But the prosecution evidence stands up to the defence's alibi. In this case, an alibi has come from astronomers who deny the idea of a multimillion solar mass black hole. The huge mass that lies at the galactic centre, they say, belongs not to a black hole but to a nearby group of stars. Extreme proponents of this theory even argue that there may be no black hole there at all.

This is where nature's zoom lens comes in. If there is a light

source behind an object, light rays passing either side are bent by its gravity before being seen by an observer. This effect, known as gravitational lensing, was first discussed by Einstein in 1919. Multiple images result, and observers can work out the mass of the object from how far apart these images are.

Astronomers have taken an educated guess that out of the millions of stars that surround SA, there will be one lying behind it to provide light that can be lensed. "It's definitely the way to go," says Farhad Yusef-Zadeh, an American astronomer quoted in the latest issue of *Astronomy*.

The astronomers will have to work in the infra-red region. Experts estimate that infra-red detectors will soon be sensitive enough to resolve images from as far away as SA.

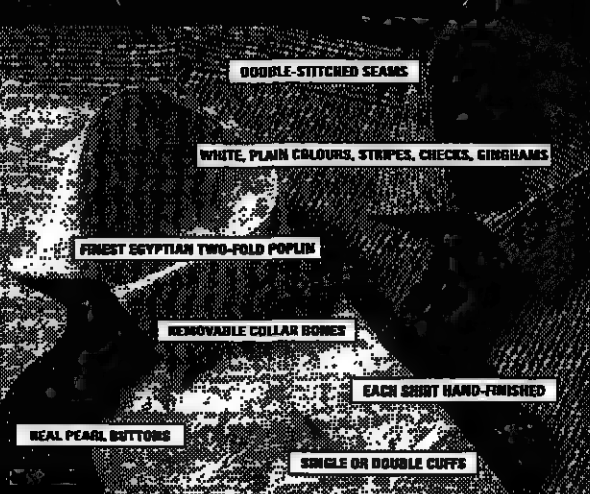
If SA turns out to possess upwards of a million solar masses, then it would be a big leap forward for black hole aficionados. The only black holes which astronomers have "seen" are small-fry in comparison, measuring perhaps up to 20 solar masses.

SA would then be a supermassive black hole. Such objects are thought to lie at the centres of some distant galaxies. Now one may also be sitting motionless at the heart of our own.



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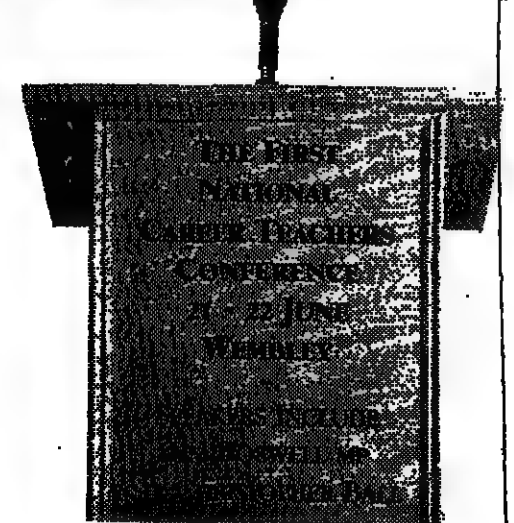
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TES

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

Julia Llewellyn Smith goes to the Cannes Film Festival in search of glamour and adventure — and finds both

The chat up line is simple: What films have you seen?

THE AIR is full of the scent of mimosa, the day is jammed with floating, fun, palaces and from the hills Cannes is glittering like Elizabeth Taylor's cleavage on Oscar night. My taxi meter is running at the speed of sound. My driver is worried, although not for my wallet. "C'est pas le problème, mademoiselle," he bemoans. In this local nasal dialect, "Pourquoi vous n'arrivez pas dans un avion privé et vous au Majestic?" he said: "I have loved to have been in by company Lear. At the airport, the crowd board."



Among the barside drifters no one is ever married

"assets" she can bring to her new film *Barb Wire*. Every broom cupboard was let out for telephone number figures months ago. I am lucky to have anywhere to stay at all.

It is morning, my friends aren't arriving until tonight. But it soon becomes clear that alone is not a word that translates into Cannes. As I walk along the Croisette I realise that I might as well have stepped onto a catwalk, with the words "for sale" chalked by some practical joker on my back. This is the biggest audition on earth.

Who knows if the next man to enter your ear is a day tripper from Nice, a rep from the porno contingent at the Nocturne or Quentin Tarantino recovering from *True Romance* surgery? Better be nice to everybody. Think of François Truffaut who arrived here one year and was released, and turned up the next to pick up the Palme d'Or.

Two hundred yards down the strip, I am gazing at a girl in a film costume who is posing for the press corps.

Baywatch actress Pamela Anderson poses: the press corps smiggers at "her assets"

But que voulez-vous? This is Festival, when 30,000 producers, directors, buyers, critics, actors, journalists, tarts and thieves descend on this town, once the playground of the British aristocracy.

Every hotel room is heaving with pony-tailed producers making deals, actresses emptying their cans of hairspray into the ozone layer and harassed publicists trying to organise an interview for Patsy Kensit with MTV Lebanon.

In the Majestic's Salon Croisette, the British press are sniggering as they ask Pamela Anderson of *Baywatch* what



The daily poolside circus at the festival gets under way: everyone in this overcrowded town could be a star, a tart, a pony-tailed producer — or a petty thief as it turns out

with cameras tape me on the shoulders. "Mademoiselle, vous êtes modèle?" Not well, I should be apparently. He has been following me all the way along the beach, taking my photograph. He would like to offer me a contract with his agency, but we have some show. I am not a model, I am a star.

Iris, without asking, slips beside me as I wait for my friends in the Gray d'Albion bar. A glass of Kir champagne is pressed into my hands. His best friend is the Sheikh of Kuwait and he loves Tramp nightclub in London. Iris has a wife, she likes shopping. At least, I think that is what he said. Iris is Moroccan, he is so drunk it is impossible to understand him in French or English. I doze off as he bawls on, jerking awake when he asks me a question, which he then kindly answers for me.

You... Festival... actress, blah. Best friend — King of Morocco. Be this as it may, I decide I simply must powder my nose. "I'll be back in a minute," I say, collecting my

coat and bag. "Then we have dinner," slurs Iris and I dash out into the night.

It might be worth it if someone would offer me a part in a film, but I seem fated to attract the flotsam of Cannes, who float round the glamorous fringes, like sewage around the Carlton beach pier. Still, I am discovering that the joy of this place is that anybody could be anybody.

My friend sits next to Tom Conti in a bar and knows she knows him from somewhere. "You are my screen idol," she says diplomatically and he looks chuffed to bits. "A starlet," say two men as I walk past them in the Carlton bar.

Two men approach me on the Carlton Terrace. "You work in films?" Yes, I lie happily. *Bon, parce que nous sommes acteurs*. It turns out these two midgets are looking for parts in action movies.

Half an hour later they are following me down the street. "Please! We come to find you for audition, demand!"

I give them Iris's card, which I find in my pocket, tell them he is my boss and to contact him at his hotel before 7am. I pity Catherine Zeta Jones, formerly of *The Darling Buds of May*, now starring in an "English surfer

movie" (yes really called *Blue Juice*). Some sheikh offered to put her up in the Hotel du Cap with her boyfriend. All she had to do was promise to have one dinner with him. She declined and doesn't turn up for the premiere. The film's rather good, it's certainly the only one I am likely to see in Cannes.

Most press screenings are at 8.30am and we all know the story of the critic shaken to life in his cinema seat, to be told "stop snoring, you're keeping the rest of us awake".

At the *Blue Juice* party at the Hilton Beach I sip a turquoise cocktail, which Dan, a Canadian buyer, tells me is the same colour as my eyes. My eyes are bright red. Dan is a liar and when I ask him exactly what kind of films he buys, he starts talking about how much he loves England and the Queen.

"Oh, he's the biggest porn king in Cannes," my friend says when I show her his card. "And did you see his wedding ring?"

Cannes is about as genuine as Pamela Anderson's breasts but it is as enticing as her baby-doll face. I have about the same chance of finding sincerity here as I do of finding my bag, which is snatched, wallet, passport and all, from the party, when my back is turned for less than a second.

I go to the Hilton to report the theft. The English concierge, Mark, initially refuses to call my hotel, to tell them to cancel my room card. He will not help me to find a number to cancel my credit cards. The French concierge is charming and helpful. Mark learns that I work for *The Times* and suddenly starts to smile and fawn. I go to the police station. It is 3am. How will I get home without my passport, I ask pathetically. "Why would you want to do that?" says one of the jolly policemen. "You are in Cannes. Stay here at least for tomorrow night and come out on a date with me."

I have strutted onto a catwalk with 'For Sale' on my back

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When an unhappy man can't cry for help

It is always dangerous to generalise about despair. But if anybody has a right to offer statistics on it, it is the Samaritans; and they have done so. *Behind the Mask* is their latest report, and its subject is men. We should heed it.

Women's suicides have halved since 1982, men's — always more common — have multiplied until they are four times as likely. The majority at risk are men not living with wives, the unskilled and unemployed, and by contrast the stressed professionals; also health workers, vets and farmers who have the means to hand. Men are more implacably efficient and determined than women, choosing meth-

Male suicide has increased in the past decade. What can women do?

ods which are grimly certain to succeed, rather than the "cry for help" overdose.

The Samaritans give these figures, and the rest of us must try to make sense of them. We were assisted, ironically, by the news on the same day of the sentencing of Ian Lumb, the assistant bank manager who spent seven months on the run in France with £94,020 of cashpoint money.

Mr Lumb is mercifully still alive, but nearly wasn't: his story illustrates only too well a certain kind of male mid-life despair, not irrelevant to the figures above.

He was a cheerful man, life and soul of the golf club. He spent money freely, as optimists will, on designer labels and trinkets and stock market adventures. His employers chided him for debt for two years he daydreamed about running away. At last he did it, and vanished into France.

Two months on, he began sending money to his family, and a trail of rueful postcards recalling favourite holidays. "I had fish soup here again..." This is where you ate the brain of something... then "You're better off without me" and talk of suicide. He returned money to the bank (nearly all of it, in the end). At last, with Christmas coming, he prepared to die in a hotel bedroom, and

rang home to hear his wife's voice on the answering machine one last time. His daughter, aged 13, answered and said into the silence: "Dad, I love you, don't hang up." So he came home, and submitted to the long processes which have led to a two-year jail sentence.

He has apologised, and refrained from setting his lawyer to deliver any pleas for clemency on the ground of his mental state. He is taking it like a man. The story, especially the child's role in it, uncannily echoes the plot of a recent novel, *A Ship Called Hope* by Robert Mawson: the first contemporary Agatha to address, from a male point of view, such a crisis.

For a woman, it is an instructive read: just as the Lumb case is instructive, and the fiasco of the phoney Laird of Tomintoul. Women ought to study these things and identify echoes of the same feelings in sons, husbands and brothers. We have become too preoccupied with women's special imbalances and anguish, forgetting men's. Look at *The Politician's Wife* on TV: every

nuance of the wife's agony is electrically portrayed by Juliet Stevenson, while her husband remains a cardboard bastard, heartless even towards his small son. It would have been possible to let him display the discomfort any human being feels when letting other people down. But no: we only want to see the woman, for that is today's angle. Just as we must "Take Our Daughters to Work" but not our sons: just as we rejoice loudly when girls outstrip boys in exams, never giving a thought to what little boys must feel about such bragadocio.

True, women have spent much of history being treated as inferior; equality is overdue. But if even the ANC can practise magnanimity in victory, so can we. Just because men ignored and belittled women's feelings for centuries there is no reason we should do it to them.

Boys and men have particular areas of fragility: women should know them, just as men should know about the menopause. There is pride, particularly the pride of supporting a family: losing even



LIBBY PURVES

'Dad, I love you, don't hang up'

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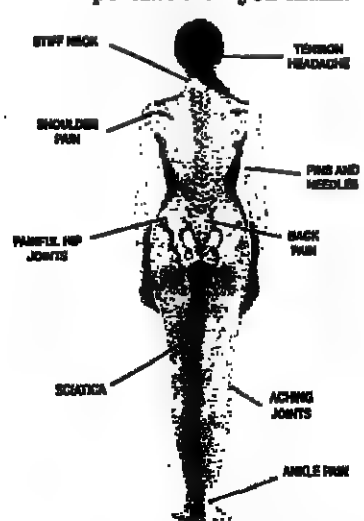
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Matthew Parris



Aids and HIV have been used by gays to claim public sympathy; but they should be claiming respect

Last week I went to see *My Night with Reg* in the West End. This is no place for a theatre review of a funny and accurate characterisation of six all-too-real gay stereotypes. It was brilliant. The plot, however, was lightweight: strung together on the emerging realisation that all six had enjoyed unsafe sex with an HIV-positive man. Subliminally, the play was being sold as "important" for that reason.

But it wasn't important for that reason. I actually became vaguely irritated with the Aids element. Something I have been wanting to write for years resurfaced. I keep shying away from its expression but it has resurfaced so often now that I think it cannot be whimsical or thoughtless, nor as harsh as it sounds, so — hopeful, though not confident, of being understood — I shall try to explain.

In the case of any group, we should be very careful before we link the group in the popular imagination to tragedy or suffering. It can be an easy way of winning the immediate argument, yet subtly degrades the status and self-belief of those for whom we argue. I am unhappy about the embrace between gay activism and Aids.

If I had been a bolder or better-looking young man in the early 1980s, I would be dead now. I know very well I have been lucky. I mourn those who have died. I respect what Aids and HIV workers and charities do.

But Aids is an illness. It is a terrible illness, one of many, but should it be allowed to define or characterise the groups who may, if unlucky or careless, be susceptible? Should the appreciation of wine walk arm in arm, in our imaginations, with cirrhosis of the liver? Is heterosexual love to be celebrated by wearing ribbons for the tens of millions who have died of syphilis?

Being gay is not a viral condition. Homosexuality is not a disease. It has nothing to do with a disease. It is not, to me, even a misfortune. It should not be linked with sorrow, suffering or death; but with life, and happiness. Do we see the hundreds of millions who have died of syphilis as martyrs to heterosexual love? Does a good cause need martyrs?

The impetus to martyrdom has grown powerfully within the gay movement, and there are reasons. There was a justified fear that unless we made a fuss about HIV, a vast health issue might never get the urgent attention it needed. But there were also anxieties and angers which, although they found in HIV

an easy focus, arose from deeper internal insecurities. Any gay man will tell you that between giving a blood sample and receiving the results, a desperate conviction that the news must be bad keeps welling up, although logic tells him otherwise.

There is also self-pity. Scratch the skin of many militant gay men, and you will find it. And there is guilt: self-reproach (along with bisexuality) is downplayed in politically correct gay discourse, but few of us have escaped as far as fast from the morality of our childhood as we wish to believe.

This tangle of responses — anger, anxiety, guilt and self-pity — has converged upon the mythology of plague with a readiness which is almost macabre. We find in HIV both totem and rallying cry. In some gay company one left with the impression that HIV-positive status is the Distinguished Service Medal of the movement, Aids its Victoria Cross.

Those who want to dignify homosexual love should resist the embrace of death

Homosexuality and Death meet in a grisly embrace. That the moral Right has taken up with relish that very embrace ought to trouble gay activists more. But there is a final, powerful reason why activists have welcomed the embrace: a reason cynically cognisant of modern PR wisdom. In our campaign to raise the dignity and status of same-sex love, Aids serves to short-cut the moral argument. "Pity us" is a powerful appeal. It can be slid, unnoticed, to "support us".

This is cheating. It frustrates those who want to make the morally conservative case against homosexual equality, and their frustration emerges in pseudo-scientific arguments against HIV spending, or health-awareness campaigns. This is dangerous ground, but we forced them onto it. Who, after all, but the most insensitive can refuse pity or support if death threatens millions? Hollywood, famously intolerant of homosexuality, easily accepts the Aids ribbon as a fashion accessory.

That is why in the 1950s and 1960s, authors who wished to introduce sympathetic homosexual roles into their work would square their audience by arranging suicide at the end. We used to kill ourselves. Now we die of Aids. Those of us who aim to raise the dignity and status of gay men should ask ourselves whether our crusade still needs to advance by clasping death to its bosom.

Bosnia is still a flashpoint, and all-out war could strain the Western alliance to breaking point

The whole world of peace and security ended on June 28, 1914, when the heir to the Austrian throne was murdered at Sarajevo. After a hundred years of substantial, though not unbroken, peace, European civilisation was shattered by the First World War, and within a further 21 years the Second World War followed as the aftershock. Now Europe is once again trying to contain a Bosnian conflict. Because the containment has so far been relatively successful, the people of Europe are strangely complacent about the continuation of a war which has already lasted for four years and caused tens of thousands of casualties. They should not be. The war is again becoming more intense, and the future of the UN peacekeeping force is in serious doubt. Neither Britain nor France, the main providers of the UN troops, is prepared to see its forces become hostages or targets; if their casualties rise they will have to be withdrawn.

The peacekeeping force has done a great deal of good: it is indeed a classic example of the use of relatively small numbers of highly trained men to save lives. In some areas it has been possible to restart something like normal life inside safe zones. Even these are now threatened. Europe, as well as Bosnia, has every reason to be grateful for the work of these soldiers in dangerous and often harsh conditions. Famine, as well as many massacres, has been prevented by their presence. But they are a target, they cannot fight back and will not be able to stay. If the warring tribes of Bosnia are determined to fight to the finish, the UN does not have the capacity to prevent them.

The comparison with 1914 is not inappropriate. Now, as then, Sarajevo is on the fault-line of the ethnic and religious divisions of the Balkans. Now, as then, the European

Conflicts of interest, interests of conflict

powers are connected by ties of history and sympathy to different tribes in Bosnia. In 1914, the Serbs in Bosnia were the allies of Serbia, Russia and Greece; the Croats were the allies of Germany and Austria; the Bosnian Muslims were supported against the Serbian threat by Turkey. The pattern formed by these powers in 1914 has been repeated in the 1990s. The break-up of the old Yugoslavia was precipitated by German pressure for recognition of the independence of Croatia and Slovenia, which were Slav provinces of Austria-Hungary for many centuries. Serbia supports the Bosnian Serbs, though President Milosevic now wants peace. Russia supports Serbia. Turkey and the Islamic powers support the Bosnian Muslims; Greece supports the Orthodox Serbs. The traditional line-up of the religious and ethnic groups has not changed.

In 1914, France's alliance with Russia, and Britain's alliance with France, pulled both of them onto the Serbian side. That has not happened in the 1990s, because France is now allied to Germany rather than to Russia. British and French public opinion was rightly outraged by the Serbian aggression earlier in the war. Even so, British and French policy is pro-peace rather than pro-Bosnia. The British and French Governments do not want to see Russia or Greece humiliated, and fear an extension of the war if no settlement can be reached. Both the

Bosnian Muslims and Turkey have resented this attitude, and there has been criticism of Britain and France for what has been regarded as a negative leaning to the Serbian side. They both regard their attitude as a positive leaning to peace.

The United States was not involved in 1914. By the time the Americans joined the First World War, in 1917, the issues had broadened and changed, and nobody was thinking much about Serbs, Bosnians or archdukes any more. In the 1990s,

William Rees-Mogg

American policy has been concerned with two objectives: to support Bosnia as the victim of aggression, and to avoid any risk of American casualties. There are no American ground troops in Bosnia, and there are not going to be. America's sense of outrage against Serb aggression is certainly justifiable, but American policy has seemed to disregard the explosive pressure of the religious and ethnic differences of Bosnia and of the whole Balkan area.

Italy eventually joined the First World War on the side of Britain, France, Russia and therefore of

Serbia. Italy has cool relations with the German-supported state of Slovenia, and somewhat less than warm feelings for the Croats. Bosnia is far closer to Italy than it is to Britain, and Italy would certainly not welcome a knockout victory for either the Serbs or the Muslims. The Mediterranean countries — France, Italy and Spain — see the Bosnian war far more in terms of the future pressure from Islam than we do. The whole southern shore of the Mediterranean consists of Islamic countries, some of which, like Algeria, are very unstable. The politics of Islam have now become part of the domestic politics of the European Mediterranean countries, and are therefore part of the domestic politics of the European Union.

In diplomatic terms, one of the dangers of the war in Bosnia is that it will break the alliances. There are significant differences of attitude inside the European Union, with Germany and Austria being pro-Croat, and Greece pro-Serb. There are much greater differences inside Nato, with the United States and Turkey supporting the Bosnian Muslims. In Washington, the Republicans support the Bosnian Muslims even more strongly than the Administration itself.

If the peacekeeping force does have to be withdrawn, and the war becomes much more intense, the Bosnian Muslims would have support from the whole Islamic world and

from the United States, but the Bosnian Serbs would be able to look to Serbia, Russia and Greece. The Croats would be supported by Germany. Britain and France would be trying to maintain their position of neutrality. The Western system of alliances would be in danger. That is the threat to the EU and to Nato.

An even greater danger is that Bosnia is yet another battle on the 2,000-mile border between Russia and Islam. The Russian empire broke up after it was defeated in Afghanistan. The Russians are now fighting with great brutality to suppress Chechnya. A defeat in Bosnia would be regarded as intolerable by Russian nationalists. It could draw Russia back into the Slav area of Eastern Europe, following the tendency for Russian influence to be restored in parts of the former Soviet Union. It could lead to a new military regime in Russia, which is already a strong possibility. The Anglo-French policy towards Bosnia has differed from America's partly because we have given much greater weight to the Russian dimension of the war. Washington has throughout been more concerned with the issue of aggression.

The situation in 1914 differed greatly in one respect from that of the 1990s. German policy then was pro-war. The murder in Sarajevo became a pretext for German aggression against France and Russia. No outside power wants war today; all very much want peace. Nevertheless, the religious and ethnic fault-lines have not changed: Sarajevo is where the Catholic Germanic world, the Slav Orthodox world and the Islamic world meet. If the warring tribes now push out the peacekeeping force and fight to the finish, all these greater relationships will come under stress. So will Europe's relationship with the United States.

Bloated and bleating

Peter Riddell says MPs should be worrying about Parliament's impotence

What is wrong with Parliament is not sleaze or scandal, but loss of power and authority. The Tory backlash against the Nolan report is really an expression of frustration and resentment. There are echoes in Sir Anthony Grant's decision to retire because the Commons has "so little importance". Parliament is under threat, sovereign only in name. It is increasingly being challenged by European institutions, the courts, the media, the personal flaws of MPs themselves and by Opposition proposals for devolution. Most MPs have not adjusted, or even acknowledged their own weakness.

The resounding declarations of parliamentary supremacy during Thursday's debate sounded hollow given the public's doubts. The recent MORI poll for the Rowntree Reform Trust shows that the number who think that Parliament works well has dropped from 59 to 43 per cent since 1991, while the proportion who think it works badly has doubled to 30 per cent. The scale of outright abuse may be small, though not as small as Nolan's critics pretend, but as the report argued, perceptions matter. And they persist only because the Commons is widely seen as ineffective (the Lords' role is secondary).

People have a more favourable view of their own MPs. The poll shows no decline since 1991 in local people's satisfaction with the job their MP is doing for the constituency. MPs devote more time now to redressing local grievances. Many say this welfare officer role is the most satisfying part of the work. One result of recent changes to sitting hours is that MPs spend more time than before in their constituencies.



The decline in the standing of the Commons, as opposed to individual MPs, is not because of a sudden growth in the power of the executive and the whips. Despite Michael Cockerell's colourful programme last night about the whips' black arts, their power has greatly diminished since the days of the much-feared David Margesson in the 1930s. Backbenchers are now more independent-minded and rebellious.

Frustrations have arisen because of new external challenges. Ministers are now more constrained by European law and the growth of judicial review. But MPs have failed to make the best of the new situation. The fashionable talk about increasing the input of national parliaments into European decisions sounds empty, given MPs' lack of interest so far. The Foreign Affairs Select Committee has

been a rare exception, regularly reviewing European developments. Other committees have usually not bothered. The European scrutiny committees have been taken over by zealots. It is no good MPs complaining about the intrusiveness of Brussels if they do not attempt to influence European legislation before decisions are reached.

The performance of select committees generally has been patchy. MPs of talent and energy prefer to be frontbenchers, however lowly the post. Committees have had occasional influence when looking at broad issues such as the Civil Service, the role of the Bank of England and pensions. But they have largely failed to monitor public

spending plans and the utilities. The Commons is also poor at considering legislation. Governments have always got their way on their central measures. What has declined is the willingness of MPs to focus on details. Many Bills leave the Commons requiring substantial amendment, as the measure introducing the jobseekers' allowance now does. The Child Support Agency is not the only testament to well-intentioned but defective legislation. Governments have resisted the extended use of special standing committees to hold hearings on detailed provisions before they are debated clause by clause.

The central role of the Commons is to sustain an executive in office, and to provide ministers. Party loyalty and self-preservation ensure the former. But the latter is now in question. There is, as Sir Terence Higgins said

on Thursday, a growing recruitment problem: how to attract people of the quality to become ministers. The range of new MPs is too narrow. Too many are full-time politicians with little outside experience. The Nolan report is worried by the growth of the full-time professional politician, and does not want to prevent them having outside business interests. For Alan Duncan to claim that Lord Nolan is risking the obliteration of the professional classes from the Commons is an absurd over-reaction. Rather, the report reflects public concern that MPs are benefiting financially from being in the Commons. Admittedly, this cannot be seen in isolation from pay. The £33,000-odd earned by a backbencher and £55,000 by a minister of state are too low. But rather than argue against disclosure of earnings from parliamentary activities, MPs should be candidly campaigning for higher pay.

MPs cannot, however, brush aside the failure of current regulation. Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, has a real dilemma today in deciding how to deal with Sir Jerry Wiggin. A grovelling apology might look insufficient, while the Privileges Committee, to which his case would normally be referred, has become so cumbersome as to be unworkable. There is an urgent need for streamlined machinery, assisted by a new parliamentary commissioner for standards, who, far from being a new quango or an outsider, would be appointed by the Commons and answerable to it.

The Nolan report is not a threat to Parliament, as some Tories allege, but rather a first, and only a first, step towards restoring public confidence. Far more important is action by MPs to improve scrutiny of the executive, legislation and Europe. If MPs want to be respected, they need to demonstrate they still matter. The parties too need to revive themselves to ensure a broader range of candidates. The parliamentary closed shop should be broken by bringing some ministers in from outside. The size both of the Government (85 ministers and whips in the Commons) and of the Commons itself (now 651, and rising after boundary changes) needs to be reduced. The Commons has become bloated and self-important.

Round two

FOR the second volume of her memoirs — which, as the Diary revealed last week, will contain a chapter highly critical of John Major — Baroness Thatcher stuck with the same ghostwriters as for the first instalment. The chief advisers were Robin Harris, a member of the Downing Street policy unit during her last year in power, and John O'Sullivan, the editor of the right-wing American magazine the *National Review*. They took down her views — "a comprehensive rebuttal of everything Major stands for," according to one insider.

The *Path to Power* — which is being dubbed the "The Flood Street Years" in memory of her Chelsea address while in opposition — reveals that Lady Thatcher still keenly misses weekends at Chequers. Consequently, many of the writing sessions took place in rural retreats owned by friends such as Lord Hesket, Mark Lennax-Boyd and Sir Archibald Hamilton. And on holidays in Switzerland the writing team came too. Sessions were also fitted in during her lecture tours in the United States. Grantham, where she once lived

above the corner shop, was not included in the itinerary, however. "She never mentions the place," says an associate. "America is her second home."

● Schoolboy howlers from Classroom Clangers, a new book compiled by two headmasters in the



... Comes out in May, attacks anything in sight, then disappears.

North East of England. One pupil wrote: "I've said goodbye to my boyhood, now I'm looking to my adulthood." Another defined "monotonous" as "being married to the same person for the rest of your life".

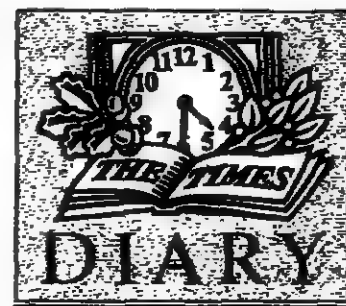
Looking down

THE HOUSE OF LORDS will be less other-worldly, after the Earl of Clancarty last week passed on to an even higher place. He was the founder of the Lords all-party study group on UFOs, and was convinced that aliens were among us.

He rallied against a succession of Governments for refusing to acknowledge the existence of UFOs, some of which he claimed were buried in the bowels of the Earth while others kept an eye on us from the Moon.

"The Earth was colonised by space travellers, and we are all descended from them," he once said. "We all came from different planets originally. That's why there are different races with different coloured skins."

● The hottest party at Cannes on Saturday was a Channel 4 bash on the beach for Blue Juice, starring Catherine Zeta Jones. A lost soul



weaved among the throng repeatedly asking "Has anyone seen my brother?" Eventually, after he had been ignored umpteenth times, someone asked who he was. "I'm Robert Keaton and my brother is Michael Keaton," he said proudly, referring to the star of *Batman*. Revellers looked him up and down and returned to their drinks.

Paige proof

ELAINE PAIGE sat at Andrew Lloyd Webber's right hand yesterday during The Really Useful Group's race-day VIP lunch at Newbury racecourse.

It was unfortunate, admitted the composer, that the racecard given to all his guests carried a prominent advertisement for his show *Sunset Boulevard* starring the leg-

endary Glenn Close. For Close played the role only in the United States.

Sir Andrew gallantly apologised for the mistake to his great friend and star of the show in London. "EP and I go back many years, but now I fear she'll never speak to me again."

Paige graciously accepted his apology, and then joked: "I'm talking to my solicitors."

● To promote its new image, the Design Council recently decided to mail a copy of its journal to industry movers and shakers. Believ-



Paige: unfazed

ing humble brown envelopes to be inadequate, it had some smashing new ones specially created. One problem: they were too small. The bump was hastily wrapped up in a strictly non-designer silver paper and string. A shame, because the obsolete envelopes had boasted: "The new Design Council believes that design isn't something you stick on afterwards."

Czech it out

CATWALKS are abuzz with talk of the extraordinary number of supermodels emerging from one tiny corner of the Czech Republic. Despite a national diet of fatty meat, dumplings and pickled cabbage and lungfuls of some of Europe's most polluted air, the "black triangle" of North Bohemia has produced a clutch of supermodels.

The home towns of Eva Herzigova (famous for the Wonderbra campaign), Daniela Pestova (the face of L'Oréal and Guess Jeans) and Tereza Maxova (regarded as the most glamorous model of all by the Czechs) are among the grimmest imaginable, with sulphur dioxide levels well above the World Health Organisation's safety limits, and water polluted by nitrates. But beauty blossoms, according to



Eva Herzigova: clean living

a feature in *Zeiti* magazine. "It's a mystery. I guess we are lucky ones — somehow we are not allergic to the pollution," admits Jana Hartova, 23, a blonde and willowy model who left the smog of North Bohemia for Paris. "Or maybe it's all in our mixed blood — we're from the region where Germanic and Slavic Europe meet."

Whatever the secret, it doesn't work for men. A highlight of the region's social calendar is the annual Mr. Belly Contest, won last year by a gentleman boasting a 61-inch girth.

P.H.S



IMITATION GAMES

Blair's economics is the sincerest form of flattery

When Tony Blair delivers his Mais Lecture on Labour's economic strategy today, observers will naturally be searching for the new economic policies to expect under a Labour Government. But the real thrust of Mr Blair's message will be to suggest that this is a futile task. On the economic issues that matter most to financial markets and to most British voters, there will be essentially no difference between "new Labour" and the Tories. Of course, neither of the parties will ever openly say this. But if Mr Blair is to be taken at his word — admittedly a big "if" — then the gap between Tory and Labour thinking on economic policy today is hardly wide enough for a cigarette paper.

Mr Blair says that the central aim of his economic policy will be to control inflation. That is certainly a familiar message for British voters after Mr Major's five years at Downing Street. Mr Blair's claim that Labour would follow policies that are even more anti-inflationary than those of the Tories will convince no-one; no politician in post-war history has been more consistent in this respect than Mr Major, as millions of homeowners suffering from negative equity know only too well. Labour has accused the Government of "going soft" on inflation because of a trivial change in the Bank of England's inflation forecast from 2.5 to 3 per cent. But this accusation is bound to sound fatuous from a party which has never managed to stabilise inflation anywhere near 3 per cent without resorting to rationing or price controls.

It is easy for Mr Blair to promise that Labour will "never take risks with inflation". But does this mean, as Kenneth Clarke just asked yesterday, that Labour would now raise interest rates? And would Mr Blair have kept interest rates up even longer than Mr Major during the ERM period, when economists were virtually unanimous that any sign of weakening in the Government's resolve to defend sterling would send inflation spiralling up? Governments and central banks are always taking risks with

inflation, as they are with every other economic and political objective. Government is the art of balancing risks — and any Opposition leader who genuinely thinks otherwise is in for a bruising experience if he comes to power.

The other "main planks" of Mr Blair's economic framework are just as familiar to readers of Tory manifestos. Mr Blair wants to reduce unemployment and wean people off welfare. He wants to improve education and training and to encourage investment. All of these aims are obviously shared by the Tories — and the present Government's policies on all of them are at least as impressive as any Labour has proposed.

It is only perhaps on taxes and public spending that signs emerge of a genuine difference of approach. While the Tories have made quite clear that they are determined to reduce both taxes and public spending as a share of national income, Labour seems satisfied to leave both at current levels and then see them expand along with economic growth. This will probably be the main economic battlefield in the next election. But even here the differences between the parties may prove hard to pin down after the tax-raising record of the Tories in the past three years.

In sum, therefore, the voters will find it difficult to distinguish between the two parties by their economic policies. Although that may disappoint hard-core Labour supporters, the lack of economic distinctions will suit Mr Blair. If, as is likely, the economy is still performing well in 1997, Mr Blair will not want to fight an election over economics. He will be satisfied to neutralise the electoral impact of economics and taxes, and try to win on issues like health, leadership and "time for a change".

For the Tories, who in 1997 will probably still be presiding over healthy non-inflationary growth, the best hope will not be to argue with Labour over economic policies, but to ask whether a Labour leader can really be trusted to manage a Tory economy.

WRONGS OF WAY

To ramble on footpaths is lawful: to trespass is different

The majority of Britain's ramblers may be as sweet-tempered as the rolling countryside over which they trudge, but Kate Ashbrook, the chairman of the Ramblers' Association, is possessed of an altogether more combative nature. Ms Ashbrook has just thrown down a bristling challenge on behalf of ramblers to landowners across the country: "We are fed up with being kept out of our own backyard. Either reform your ways now or change will be imposed on you".

Walking across the countryside is a pastime in which the British have always rejoiced; and the right to own, control and dispose of private property is a right which they have always defended. There may have been times when pasture and right have collided, but walkers have less cause for complaint today than they have ever had in the history of democratic Britain.

Ms Ashbrook and the association are not, of course, entirely without well-founded grievance. Insofar as she aims her considerable ire on those lawful public footpaths across private land which landowners have either blocked or used for cultivation, she will be acting in the public interest. Her intransigent language may not help her to win friends among those who own land — she is wont to speak of "the path-blocking, anti-access, criminal landowning community" — but her aim to restore Britain's historic pathways to those who wish to walk along them is unexceptionable.

Yet just as attempts to "unblock" established footpaths deserve support, so the objective of the Ramblers' Association to assert

a right to roam over all uncultivated land does not. Ms Ashbrook is wrong to insist on "legislation that would give the public freedom to walk on open country, such as moorland, heath, woodland and riversides". As a way to put pressure on landowners and MPs, she has advocated mass trespass as a form of "direct action".

Such action should be regarded as no more acceptable than the methods employed by militant animal rights activists at Brightlingsea. Quite apart from constituting a trespass, such conduct would be tantamount to an assertion that the owners of private rural land do not enjoy the same rights as an urban owner of property does. The aggressive philosophy of Ms Ashbrook and her militant ramblers appears to run counter to the very right to own property. A necessary corollary of that right is the ability of landowners to regulate the manner and method of entry by others onto their land.

It is regrettable that the Ramblers' Association has chosen to pursue this particular course. By drawing attention to every violation by landowners of the Rights of Way Act, Ms Ashbrook would achieve far more. By enlisting the support of local authorities and ensuring that farmers do not plough up, damage, fence off or narrow the nation's paths, she would be benefiting her members and the country at large. A conciliatory approach — which recognises that while rural land exists for walking, it exists also for a variety of other uses — would help her to achieve far more than the sounding of a bucolic battle-cry.

A RUGBY RAINBOW

The new South Africa rejoices in its own world cup

The staging of the Rugby World Cup will dwarf in its consequence every other occasion in the history of South African sport. That is not to deny the cricket match in Calcutta in November 1991; nor the country's first Test against the West Indies in Barbados, and last year's poignant return to Lord's. Yet nothing should seize the imagination more effectively — and invigorate world rugby more fully — than the forthcoming celebration in Nelson Mandela's South Africa of the Afrikaner's most cherished game.

In a salute to the event, *The Times* has today published a special guide to the Rugby World Cup. No one should undervalue the tournament's significance: its success would be further proof of South Africa's astonishing racial reconciliation.

But that spirit will be called upon still further, for there is not a single black Springbok: Chester Williams's last-minute withdrawal through injury has cruelly ensured that. The all-white nature of the home side will be striking, especially when, as Mr Mandela observed recently, "even teams from Europe will be featuring people of colour". In Uogugu, Ojomo and Gushoot, England alone have three.

But just as all South Africans — black, white and Indian — have given their support to the country's all-white cricketing Proteas, there is every sign that all South Africans will shout full-throatedly now for their rugby-playing Springboks. Rugby may still be a white man's game, but a beginning has

been made in the new South Africa to take the game to the townships. If the profits of this World Cup are put to sensitive use — in coaching young blacks intensively and developing decent facilities for them — there is no reason why the Springboks should not soon be a more representative side. By the next World Cup, they may even have more blacks in their side than in England's.

A great conversion, however, is already apparent. Francois Pienaar and his hulking men will be playing under a bright new flag, as exuberantly striped and coloured as any in all Africa. And the players' muscled chests, which once puffed with pride at the playing of *Die Stem*, will now swell to the strains of *Nkosi Sikelele i Afrika*. The country's rugby team may be all-white, but the formal sights and sounds of State have changed in South Africa.

England's squad, Will Carling and all, is now training hard in this expectant land. Many of them were there last year, when England played the Springboks again after the end of South Africa's sporting isolation. The most moving pictures of that tour came not from the Loftus Versfeld in Pretoria — nor from any other rugby ground — but from the coaching clinic conducted by English players for some small black boys in a township. Carling's men both learnt and taught on that epoch-making tour. They will do so again in the course of the World Cup — as will the teams from every other country taking part. South Africa, and rugby, will be the richer for that.

'Free-for-all' on tourist road signs

From Lord Montagu of Beaulieu

Sir, On May 18 the House of Lords opened up parliamentary debate on the Government's unevaluated and ill-conceived proposals for relaxing the rules which govern the erection of roadside directional signs, hitherto the preserve of regional tourist authorities.

These proposals, which were presented on April 3 and set out a consultative period of only one month — few local authorities even had time to refer them to their committees — were opposed from all sides of the House.

Concern from environmental and conservation interests was predictable, but when echoed by the motoring organisations, the local authorities, the tourist boards and the tourism industry itself, it is clear that the dogma of deregulation is being carried too far.

The proposed virtual free-for-all, without standards of consistency, would surely create more confusion than clear guidance for tourists, with every type of destination for visitors — pubs, guest houses, B&Bs, even shops — being eligible for signs, with a Department of Transport presumption in favour of approval.

Some variation to the existing rules would be welcome, for the sake of long-distance traffic management. But there is neither adequate need nor valid commercial argument for permitting hundreds of thousands of signs to sprout — by their very numbers defeating their purpose of clear guidance.

The resultant environmental damage to towns, villages and countryside will become an unpleasant and irreversible legacy which electors will not forgive or forget.

These proposals should not be laid before Parliament until more consultation has taken place, so that a consistent national basis can be devised which will safeguard rather than undermine the standards and integrity of our tourism.

Yours faithfully,
MONTAGU OF BEAULIEU,
Palace House, Beaulieu,
Brookhurst, Hampshire.
May 19.

Touching a brief

From Mr Ronald Thwaites, QC

Sir, Few criminal barristers wish to go on speaking until we have exhausted our vocabulary, the judge's patience, the client's wallet or the national purse — your satirical editorial, "Brief waffle" (May 13), notwithstanding.

Many briefs are delivered late by solicitors and are often ill-prepared and incomplete. The new procedures require barristers to be able to answer, in advance and in court, many detailed questions to which they can have no answers because these have not been supplied to them. Such failures (not of our making) may now result in a rocket from the judge and an order directed against the barrister's own pocket. The legal aid fee for the lucky barrister for these hearings has been set at £43. A wasted costs order could run into hundreds of pounds.

No one in business on his own account will survive long if he operates under these conditions. However, no barrister need accept instructions in one of these cases. In fact he is positively obliged not to do so, for under para 50(1) of the Bar Code of Conduct.

A practising barrister must not accept any brief or instructions... if having regard to his other professional commitments he will be unable to do so or will not have adequate time and opportunity to prepare that which he is required to do.

Therefore, unless the brief is delivered in good time and in good order, no member of the Bar of sound mind should touch it and no one can compel him to do so. How many of our leaders of Bar and circuit, past and present, must we thank for bringing this once great profession to its knees?

Yours faithfully,
RONALD THWAITES,
10 King's Bench Walk, Temple, EC4.

Arts and lottery

From Mr S. R. Lancelyn Green

Sir, Mr Charles Morgan (letter, May 15) is absolutely right. Art is created and performed by people, not buildings, and in any case one man's capital improvement is another man's increased overhead cost.

Surely the National Lottery money should be used to create endowment funds for our major orchestras and performing companies to enable them to plan further ahead than the few months to which they are usually limited at present.

Even theatres and concert halls which are run by trusts could be endowed so that the cost of using them is lowered. Of course any government that wishes us to believe that it has any commitment to the performing arts has only to relieve tickets of VAT, and theatres and concert halls of rates.

It is far better that the performing companies should keep their hard-earned cash to cover costs than have it taken away in taxes and suffer the indignity of being obliged to beg for some of it back (net of both sides' bureaucratic costs).

Yours,
S. R. LANCELYN GREEN,
Poulton Hall, Poulton Lancelyn,
Beblington, Wirral.

Nolan debate: a sense of proportion in political warfare

From Mr Alan Duncan, MP for Rutland and Melton (Conservative)

Sir, The BBC amongst others have plenty of film recording my opinion that money earned for parliamentary consultations should indeed be declared openly, and that I broadly welcome the Nolan proposals. Your call for me to "be reasonable" (leading article, May 20) has already been met.

But like Trollope, I have also appealed "for a sense of proportion" to be restored to a debate which has raged out of control.

As I recall, my quiet words to Lord Nolan, to whom I apologise for the fact we were recorded by a distant cameraman (report, May 19), were: Sir, I hope you appreciate what you're in the middle of here. It's a very, very dangerous political game, and if it goes wrong you could end up obliterating the professional classes' representation in the House of Commons.

We should stop pretending that we are in the middle of a rational debate about the workings of Parliament. We are not.

We are in fact in the middle of the most vicious and artful political campaign ever seen in Britain, in which the Labour Party has quite brilliantly seized on discontent and dressed up party politics as a battle of principle. This is war by other means, and they are winning it.

They have successfully conveyed the impression that Conservative MPs and the private sector are all bad, and have escaped any comparable scrutiny of their own conduct. Mr Blair's growing hubris may yet rebound on him as people realise that his objectives have little to do with standards, and have everything to do with destroying the nature of Conservative representation in Parliament, at whatever cost to the institution itself. This is a takeover bid without a ballot, in which decent people are being made to look like crooks, which I resent.

I intend to be reasonable, but how long should we continue to play cricket when the other side is driving tanks at us from the pavilion?

Yours faithfully,
ALAN DUNCAN,
House of Commons,
May 20.

From Mr Andrew Rowe, MP for Mid Kent (Conservative)

Sir, Simon Jenkins's idea that we should draw a minimal salary from public funds and gain the rest of our remuneration quite openly from interests which we would represent ("MPs need proper jobs", May 17) has many attractions. I am increasingly sure that we cannot go on as we are.

Sir Terence Higgins, in evidence to the Nolan committee, pointed out that in his time as MP average salaries outside Parliament have risen by 86 per cent in real terms while MPs' salaries have remained the same. Even if the public believes backbenchers are worth no more, it should be remembered that under our system almost every minister is taken from the Members of the House, so attracting and retaining good people is important.

Nolan has decreed that MPs can no longer regulate their own affairs without professional help. If that is right it is even more certain that MPs can't be trusted to determine their own salaries without professional help. I suggest that a board made up of the non-parliamentary members of the Nolan committee should do it for us.

I would trust Sir Clifford Boulton (recently on £90,148 p.a.), Lord Nolan (£98,957), even Professor King (at least £33,000, with few restrictions on his ability to earn additional income outside his salary) to see us right.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW ROWE,
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May 20.

From Mr Andrew Rowe, MP for Mid Kent (Conservative)

Sir, Simon Jenkins's idea that we should draw a minimal salary from public funds and gain the rest of our remuneration quite openly from interests which we would represent ("MPs need proper jobs", May 17) has many attractions. I am increasingly sure that we cannot go on as we are.

Sir Terence Higgins, in evidence to the Nolan committee, pointed out that in his time as MP average salaries outside Parliament have risen by 86 per cent in real terms while MPs' salaries have remained the same. Even if the public believes backbenchers are worth no more, it should be remembered that under our system almost every minister is taken from the Members of the House, so attracting and retaining good people is important.

Nolan has decreed that MPs can no longer regulate their own affairs without professional help. If that is right it is even more certain that MPs can't be trusted to determine their own salaries without professional help. I suggest that a board made up of the non-parliamentary members of the Nolan committee should do it for us.

I would trust Sir Clifford Boulton (recently on £90,148 p.a.), Lord Nolan (£98,957), even Professor King (at least £33,000, with few restrictions on his ability to earn additional income outside his salary) to see us right.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW ROWE,
House of Commons.

"There's no legislating for honour", May 19) that for many, myself included, the original motivation to seek to become a Member of Parliament is quite simply "because that is held to be an honourable thing to be".

At the same time, I reject both the traditional patrician argument — that higher salaries would attract "the wrong sort of chap" — and the "politically correct" but highly naive view that potential MPs will always come forward out of a sense of duty regardless of financial reward. If parliamentary salaries were ever to rise high enough to attract candidates with no sense of duty, honour or desire to lead, candidate selection committees are there to say "thanks, but no thanks".

We will not be successful in encouraging our most talented individuals to forego the opportunity of private sector reward and normal family life if we continue to constrain the salaries of our MPs and then criticise them for seeking to supplement their income outside the House.

Yours faithfully,
PETER FLEET
(Conservative prospective parliamentary candidate, Southampton, Itchen),
70 Dean Road, Bitterne, Southampton.
May 19.

From Mr A. D. Gatling

Sir, There is a certain irony in your headline "Heath leads Tory revolt over Nolan" (May 19). Sir Edward is concerned at ceding Parliament's sovereignty to Nolan but is the arch-dilemma of handing it over to Brussels.

Just what is it that Sir Edward has against his fellow countrymen?

Yours faithfully,
A. D. GATLING,
White Lodge,
Berwick St James,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.
May 19.

Screening tests

From Mr D. L. Crosby and Professor C. J. Roberts

Sir, Dr Thomas Stuttaford ("The test that will set your mind at rest", May 16) strongly advocates a breathtaking array of medical screening tests which, despite feeling well, we should subject ourselves to. There is little mention of their cost, the frequency required or most importantly their effectiveness in avoiding premature death.

At a time when many are suggesting that treatment which is known to be effective should be rationed, this borders on the irresponsible. The public should be quite clear. What is being discussed is largely a supplied industry, with a vested interest in converting well people into worried patients.

Yours sincerely,
D. L. CROSBY
(Chairman, Cardiff Community Healthcare Trust),
C. J. ROBERTS
(Non-executive Director, West Glamorgan Health Authority),
University of Wales College of Medicine,
Department of Epidemiology and Public Health,
Heath Park, Cardiff.
May 16.

Cricket and the stars

From Mrs Glyn Daniel

Sir, In your otherwise excellent obituary of Professor Raymond Lytton (May 19) there was no mention of his wide sporting interests: golf, snooker, but chiefly cricket, a lifetime's love from which I have benefited in more ways than one.

In 1952 I raised a women's cricket XI in Cambridge with the kindly support of the then captain of the university side, one David Sheppard. Ray gave freely of his time to coach me in the nets at St John's College, of which my husband was a Fellow. But older readers of sporting events will best remember him for his contributions to the lively discussion that went on in the Fifties about the swerve of a cricket ball. Ray had been specially pleased that letters to him from Sir Donald Bradman welcomed his theory.

Cricket clearly had a fascination for theoretical astronomers as (Sir) Fred Hoyle was reported as saying in 1951: "I find myself wondering whether, somewhere among upwards of a million planetary systems per galaxy, is a cricket team that could beat the Australians."

Yours faithfully,
RUTH DANIEL,
The Flying Stag,
70 Bridge Street, Cambridge.
May 19.

Faithful cuckoo

From Lord Kilbracken

Sir, As Nigel Hawkes suggests (article, May 18) the word "cuckold" is derived from "cuckoo" — plus the pejorative suffix "old" — but this is an etymological error that labels the male bird, whose partner is not known to be unfaithful despite her deplorable egg-laying habits, which he presumably encourages.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KILBRACKEN,
House of Lords.
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JOHN KILBRACKEN,
House of Lords.
May 19.

OBITUARIES

EVELYN LINCOLN

Evelyn Lincoln, former personal secretary to President John F. Kennedy, died in Washington on May 11 aged 85. She was born in Polk County, Nebraska, on June 25, 1909.

THE least fashionable of the various courtiers of Camelot, Evelyn Lincoln was nonetheless one of the most valuable members of President Kennedy's White House entourage. For a thousand days she sat in much closer proximity to him than any of the more colourful aides whom he brought with him to Washington. Nor was she in any sense an *ingénue*. Although she did not predate the Irish mafia from Massachusetts, she had been in Kennedy's service as long as Theodore Sorensen and much longer than, for example, Arthur Schlesinger Jr or Pierre Salinger. But the relationship between the two of them remained strictly a professional one — even when they were alone it was always "Mrs Lincoln" and "Mr President".

They were together for more than ten years, from the very beginning of John Fitzgerald Kennedy's career in the Senate in January 1953 until November 22, 1963, when Evelyn Lincoln was riding in a bus behind the President's car in Dallas. It had been a remarkably successful working partnership. Lincoln was efficient, highly intelligent and a confidante whose devotion to her boss and his ambitions was limitless. Within weeks of their meeting, when Kennedy was a green senatorial candidate and she was a 43-year-old congressional aide on the lookout for a politician with White House possibilities, she made herself indispensable. There was not much about JFK that Lincoln did not know. In addition to her official duties, she was also required to telephone women — she they call girls or film stars — to ask for dates on his behalf. She never appears to have resented this side of her work — even if, many years later, she was to estimate (probably exaggeratedly) that "half my time was spent" fielding calls from women trying to keep tabs on the President.

And certainly her role in this regard



Evelyn Lincoln with President Kennedy and his son John at the White House

provided her with exclusive knowledge. She always claimed to be one of the first to know that Kennedy's romance with Jacqueline Bouvier was serious. She had reached her own conclusions when the then junior senator from Massachusetts departed from his normal practice of getting her to make his calls and started phoning the then *Washington Times-Herald* photographer himself.

Evelyn Lincoln, however, never got on particularly well with Jacqueline Kennedy and, after the latter's death, was to be found accusing her on television of having conducted her own affairs from the private quarters in the White House. There was no doubt,

however, of her devotion to her former boss. Twice a year she would place three red roses on his grave in Arlington National Cemetery — a tribute all the more striking coming from a woman whose nature had always been undemonstrative.

For the 34 months of JFK's reign Evelyn Lincoln's office — next to the President's, and equipped with a bowl of sweets and a humidor of gift cigars not up to presidential standards — was a nerve centre of the White House. Kennedy's Vice-President, Lyndon Johnson, she later revealed, used to cut through her office to give White House aides the false impression that he had been closeted with the President.

She was a secretarial magpie, saving virtually every scrap of paper that crossed Kennedy's desk and even rummaging in wastebaskets for his doodles and jottings. After his death she donated everything she had collected to the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston, of which she was one of the seven original incorporators. The doodles have since become one of the most popular exhibits.

Evelyn Norton, the daughter of a Nebraska congressman (curiously, Kennedy's speechwriter, Theodore Sorensen, came from that state too), was a graduate of Washington's George Washington University, where she met her husband, Harold Lincoln. She studied law for two years before going to work on Capitol Hill for an obscure congressman from Georgia.

Made redundant by Mrs Kennedy immediately after the assassination, she was also peremptorily removed by LBJ from her former key position in the White House. She continued to work there, though, for a period while never hiding her disdain for Kennedy's successor. She later went so far as to claim that her former boss had told her before the trip to Dallas that he intended to dump Lyndon Johnson from the Democratic ticket in 1964.

When Johnson himself was elected by a landslide in that election, Lincoln left Washington to write the first of her two volumes of memoirs. She later returned to Capitol Hill as a secretary from 1967 to 1973, always keeping her eye open for another presidential hopeful.

In 1982 Lincoln thought she had finally found what she was looking for in the person of Senator Gary Hart of Colorado, for whom she campaigned in both his bids for the Democratic nomination. "The people who loved John Kennedy should love Gary Hart," she said. Ironically, it was Hart's capacity to love not wisely but too often that brought him down — the very flaw which Lincoln had covered up so assiduously for her idol, Kennedy.

She is survived by her husband Abe, a lawyer who was himself for many years a staffer on Capitol Hill.

JOHN RICH



John Rich, CMG, former British Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, 1980-85, and Switzerland, 1985-88, died from cancer on May 13 aged 66. He was born on June 29, 1928.

AS A young diplomat in the early 1960s John Rich was a member of the Foreign Office team which tried to fulfil the dream of the then Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan, by securing Britain's entry into the Common Market. The Brussels talks broke down when President de Gaulle delivered his unequivocal "Non" — but not before Rich had managed to write his name into this short chapter of British history. One of his tasks had been to translate the Treaty of Rome into a working English version for Whitehall. He did it so well that the "Rich translation" became the accepted text for three decades.

Suddenly left high and dry without a post when the talks collapsed, Rich was drafted as head of chancery to the British Political Residency in Bahrain, where again he carved out a small niche of his own. When inter-ethnic fighting erupted among expatriate oil workers on the island of Das, he summoned a tank landing craft *HMS Striker*, which by chance was under the command of an old schoolfriend, and asked it to stand by offshore. He liked to claim afterwards to have been one of the last British diplomats to solve a problem by sending in the traditional gunboat.

Yet John Roland Rich was far from belonging to the traditional mould of imperial emissary. Born in Durham, he was the son of a lecturer at Durham University who was later to become the first Professor of Education at Hull. Sent to school at Sedburgh, he became head of his house — the same house later to be led by England's present rugby captain, Will Carling, Rich would whimsically refer to Will Carling as "my successor".

From Sedburgh he went to Clare College, Cambridge, as

a foundation exhibitor to read modern languages. He also rowed for the college and was a leading light in founding the university's branch of the United Nations Association.

First posted to the Royal Artillery on National Service, Rich was transferred to the Intelligence Corps on being commissioned and was sent to a field security unit in Trieste. He also won some distinction by scoring "over 100 per cent" on a photo-intelligence course. One of the tests involved identifying signal boxes in a marshalling yard. A lifelong steam train enthusiast, Rich recognised the yard and was able to point to one box that even the examiners had missed.

Already accepted for the Diplomatic Service on leaving Cambridge, he joined the Foreign Office in King Charles Street in 1951. His first overseas posting two years later was to Addis Ababa, where he met his wife Rosemary — who had arrived as a young teacher at the English school there.

He subsequently served in Stockholm, 1956-59, Bahrain, 1963-66, Prague, 1969-72, then for two years as a Foreign Service Inspector in Bonn, 1974-78. Europe and commerce were the two areas in which he specialised and the rebelling of British trade with Germany during his time in Bonn may have played its part in his appointment as CMG in 1978.

There followed two years as Consul-General in Montreal, 1978-80, before his two postings as an Ambassador — to Czechoslovakia and Switzerland. He took great satisfaction from the "Velvet Revolution" in Prague, which saw the ending of communism there in 1989, a year after he had retired at the age of 60.

He accepted a number of part-time jobs in his retirement, including that of political adviser to the National Care Homes Association. Retaining close links with Whitehall, he acted as consultant to the government-sponsored "Know-How" Fund, advising former Stalinist countries (Estonia and Slovakia in Rich's case) on establishing new democratic systems. He also became a "scrutiner" or "weeder", checking Foreign Office papers for sensitive material before they are made available at the Public Record Office.

A comfortably well-built, pipe-smoking man with a twinkle in his eye and no pretensions, John Rich made many friends and had few enemies. His modus operandi as an ambassador included travelling widely and meeting people — a job for which his quiet charm had well equipped him.

He learnt Czech while based in Prague and was gratified on leaving to be presented with a cut-glass vase by locally employed Czechs and Slovaks at the embassy. It remained one of his most treasured memorabilia.

He was also a man of surprising interests, including botany and especially wild orchids. When in Switzerland he enlarged and enhanced his reputation during his long alpine walks by discovering a number of species which were previously unknown to the Swiss authorities. In later years he also took part in a survey on the wild orchids growing in Surrey.

But John Rich had to give up most of his activities early this year when he fell victim to cancer. He is survived by his wife, their daughter and two sons.

ELISHA COOK JR

Elisha Cook Jr, Hollywood character actor, died in Big Pine, California, on May 18 aged 92. He was born in San Francisco in 1902.



MODESTLY, Elisha Cook once claimed to have appeared in more "B-for-bomb" turkeys than any other actor. It may have been true, but it disguised the fact that Cook gave memorable performances in a string of films that have become enduring classics. Playing the villain in more than a hundred films, his most notable role was as "Wilmer the gunsel," Sydney Greenstreet's bodyguard in John Huston's 1941 version of *The Maltese Falcon*, in which the intensity of his acting and his handling of the Dashiell Hammett dialogue helped to lift the film from its intended "B" status to lasting fame.

Cook was the last survivor of *The Maltese Falcon* cast, which included Humphrey Bogart, Peter Lorre and Mary Astor, and his portrayal of the psychotic baby-faced killer made him a cult figure to generations of filmgoers.

He was never a star. He was, in fact, typecast to play villains. "I played rats, pimps, informers, hoodlums and communists," he once recalled. The problem was that he played them so well that no one ever thought of casting him in any other type of role.

And so, after his success in *The Maltese Falcon* he found himself playing the drug-addicted jazz drummer in *Phantom Lady* (1944), the lovelorn loser forced to drink poison in *The Big Sleep* (1946), the belligerent homebody shot down in the mud by Jack

Palace in *Shane* (1953), and the satanic apartment manager in *Rosemary's Baby* (1968).

"I didn't have the privilege of reading scripts," Cook once recalled. "Guys called me up and said, 'You're going to work tomorrow.' But call they did. He was rarely out of work, and became something of a lucky charm in Hollywood because of the apparent coincidence that films he appeared in had a habit of creating cinematic legends.

In 1936 he was in Judy Garland's first film, *Pigskin Parade*, and in 1952 acted with Marilyn Monroe in *Don't Bother to Knock*, her first starring role. He was also the

henpecked race-track teller in Stanley Kubrick's first commercial feature, *The Killers* (1956).

Though born on the West Coast, Cook grew up in Chicago and became an itinerant actor at an early age, playing with a travelling repertory company in the eastern and midwestern states. His big opportunity came when Eugene O'Neill picked him to play the juvenile lead in *Ah, Wilderness*, which ran on Broadway for two years, after which he went to Hollywood.

Elisha Cook is believed to have been married at least twice, but leaves no immediate survivors.

PROFESSOR SIEGFRIED STEIN

Professor Siegfried Stein, Hebrew scholar, died on April 29 aged 85. He was born on June 6, 1909.

THE death of Siegfried Stein is a reminder of the extent to which the intellectual life of this country was enriched, in many fields, by Hitler's determination to eliminate German Jewry. Stein's father was employed in one of the major Jewish business houses in Berlin, and the choice of the foreman Siegfried for his only child reflected the sense of integration with German culture felt by many German Jews at the beginning of this century.

The son's name was to become a source of embarrassment to him, and he eventually dropped it in favour of its synagogal equivalent, Joshua. The family was firmly rooted in Jewish tradition, and Stein, who had early in life espoused Zionist ideals, decided to emigrate. But the extent to which he still felt himself culturally comfortable, if not at home, in Germany, is reflected in the subject of his thesis.

This was a study of the portrayal of heretics in Middle High German literature, 1050-1250, and it earned him a PhD at Heidelberg in 1933, by which time there were no longer any career prospects for Jews in the German universities.

In order to build on his Jewish education he entered the great *Hochschule* for Jewish studies in Berlin, whose faculty included some of the most distinguished Jewish scholars of the time. Stein was, at the same time, teaching in various Jewish schools in Berlin. He had no inclination towards entering the rabbinate, but he received qualifications from the *Hochschule* in 1935, and forthwith departed for England.

He was more fortunate than many academic refugees in that he secured, almost immediately, a part-time post at University College London, and this enabled him, despite

the exigencies of his income, to get his parents out of Berlin before the outbreak of war.

Some of the war years he spent in Oxford but in 1945 his post at University College London became full-time. In due course his scholarly standing was recognised by his appointment as reader and, ultimately, in 1963, professor. In 1957 he published a stimulating article comparing the *haggadah*, or text read to accompany the family dinner celebrating the night of Passover, with the Greco-Roman symposium literature reflected in Athenaeus's *Deipnosophistae*.

He also published several articles on Jewish financial activities in antiquity, the Middle Ages, and up to the 17th century, with a view to producing a full-scale study of the subject, but this remained unwritten. In the early post-war years heavy teaching loads were the norm in language, literature and history departments, except for the largest, in nearly all British universities, and lecturers often had to cover a wider spectrum than they would have wished within their own subject. For Stein his own research always took second place to teaching responsibilities and the frustration of the scholarship of others. A notable example of the latter was the time that he invested in editing a festschrift presented to Alexander Altmann.

The two decades following 1945 were a period of substantial expansion in British universities, through an input of government money, particularly in the field of Oriental Studies. Whilst this enabled Stein to begin extending his department from what had been at best a 1½-man team, two other factors coincided. The first was the availability, through the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, of funds contributed by way of moral reparation by successive German governments; and the second was the circum-

stance that University College readily agreed to provide an academic home for the Institute of Jewish Studies that Alexander Altmann had founded in Manchester when, in 1959, he left to take up a chair in the United States. Stein exploited these opportunities to the full, and was for a time director of the institute as well as being head of the department, the name of which (previously Hebrew) became Hebrew and Jewish studies.

The colleagues whom he recruited, some of them already established, others promising young scholars, constituted a significant nucleus on the academic map. In particular, these included the late Professor J.G. Weiss, who gained an international reputation for his studies of 18th and 19th-century Hasidism; and Chimen Abramsky, whose interests in Jewish social and economic integration in various parts of Europe after the French Revolution

neatly complemented those of Weiss. Stein retired in 1974 to settle in Israel, and the eminence of those who attended his retirement dinner indicated the esteem and affection in which he was held. Sadly, for a number of years preceding his death he had been rendered oblivious of his surroundings by illness.

He married Rachel Werblowsky, who survives him, together with a daughter and two sons.

PROFESSOR KENNETH SIMMONDS

Kenneth Simmonds, Professor of International Law in the University of London, 1976-92, died on April 30 aged 67. He was born on November 12, 1927.



AN ACADEMIC lawyer bred in the common law tradition, Kenneth Simmonds had a rare quality which enabled him to be totally at ease with the concepts of other legal systems. Indeed, in his capacity, first as assistant director and then as director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, he foresaw the necessity of establishing close links with European — and in particular French — lawyers. To his academic qualities he added a warm and friendly personality which helped greatly in establishing and maintaining these international contacts.

Kenneth Royston Simmonds was born in Watford and educated at Watford Grammar School, where he was hurt during an air raid while on firework on the roof of the school during the Second World War and subsequently was awarded a medal for his bravery. He did his National Service in the RAF, obtaining a commission and participating in flying operations during the Berlin airlift.

He went on to read law at Exeter College, Oxford, where

had won a scholarship in history. He had originally intended to read that subject but became fascinated by law and, especially, international law. After taking his degree and completing a PhD at Oxford, he taught at the University College of Wales at Aberystwyth, moving on as a lecturer to the University of Liverpool, then as a senior lecturer at the Queen's University of Belfast, at the University of Kent and finally at Queen Mary and Westfield College, London, where he was Professor of International Law until his retirement in 1992.

In 1963 he became assistant director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, becoming director

in 1965. During the next ten years, under the chairmanship of Lord Denning, he accomplished a task which was all the more valuable, since during his term of office Britain was joining the European Community. The International Association of Legal Science was to recognise his services by making him its president in 1975-76.

He returned to teaching and was from 1980 to 1984 Dean of the Faculty of Law of Queen Mary College in London.

He specialised in the law of the sea and in community law, and his publications in the field were numerous. He wrote many opinions and participated in several arbitrations, the most notable being the Beagle Channel arbitration and the Dubai-Qatar arbitrations. At various times he lectured in Canada, the United States and Belgium.

Despite his sense of humour and his bonhomie, he believed in standing up for what he thought was right and never hesitated to do so. A much-travelled man, he loved good food.

He was a Commander of the Order of Merit of Germany, a Chevalier of the French Order of Merit and an officer of the Ordre des Palmes Académiques.

He married Gloria Tatchell in 1958. He is survived by his wife and two children.

The origins of Venice uncovered

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE origins of Venice in the early Middle Ages have been documented by a series of radiocarbon dates from Oxford University. They confirm the tradition that the Venetian state was founded by refugees fleeing from the Lombard occupation of the mainland in the late sixth century and settling on the islands of the lagoon.

Six dates from borings below the church of San Lorenzo di Ammiana, near Torcello, "indicate an age for human activity in the second half of the sixth century and seventh century", according to the journal *Archaeometry*. "It well predates the time when Rialto, the future

seat in AD 809-811." The church itself has remains going back to the ninth century, with mosaics of the twelfth, although the present building is of Renaissance date.

Another isolated church, San Francesco del Deserto, on an island northeast of the centre of Venice, has yielded even earlier remains.

Part of a boat, with oak ribs and a hewnwood hull tied together with flexible small branches, was found and dated to the fifth century AD. Radiocarbon dates from the Oxford AMS system suggested that it was built between AD 425 and 550: pegs from the boat and reeds underlying it yielded ages identical to

those from two poles driven into the mud, which "may represent the remains of a wooden enclosure or simple wharf built along the edge of a canal".

The first early canal in the vicinity of the Piazza San Marco has also been detected: excavations behind Jacopo Sansovino's famous sixteenth-century Biblioteca Marciana yielded five dates of the seventh and eighth centuries. "The associated sediment is canal fill: this sheds new light on the early topography of the area, since until now no canal was known in this part of San Marco," the journal reports.

A group of deep cores in front of the Basilica di San

Marco, in the Piazza and Piazzetta, have shown that the lagoon islands built up rapidly towards the end of the Ice Age, perhaps as a result of the melting of the Alpine glaciers, although at this time the Adriatic coastline was miles further south and the peat deposits show no evidence of seawater in the vicinity.

The lagoon itself existed five thousand years ago, as did the barrier of the Lido. The geo-archaeology of Venice seems to have been as dynamic and eventful as La Serenissima's subsequent glorious history.

Source: *Archaeometry* 34: 348-37; 211-222.

THE WAR. THE RELIEF OF MAFKING.

So general had become the confidence in the accuracy of the Reuters telegram announcing the relief of Mafeking that the society for official news had largely subsided by yesterday. When the Colonial Office became acquainted with the official confirmation, orders were issued to hoist the national flag, and the Union Jack was run up to the head of a recently-erected flagstaff on the Whitehall front of the building.

Hitherto the Government offices had made no display, but this was taken as a signal, and flags were soon flying from the Home Office, the Local Government Board, the Treasury, and the Privy Council offices.

At the India Office workmen were engaged in fixing a gigantic flagstaff for the Queen's birthday, and though the work was by no means finished the example of the other departments was followed. At the War Office, too, the Union Jack was hoisted, and the crowd in Pall-mall, realising the significance of the incident, cheered with a will. The inquiry lobbies were full, and the people there took up the cheer and a spirited rendering of the National Anthem and "He's a Jolly Good

ON THIS DAY

May 22, 1900



Maffick, verb: "A journalistic word used to designate the extravagant behaviour of the London crowds on the relief of Mafeking (OED). There were ugly scenes at Wimbledon outside the house of the journalist W.T. Stead, who suffered for his pro-Boer attitude.

Fellow. . . . Soon Pall-mall was thronged, but it was easy to see that the official news created less surprise than satisfaction.

COL. BADEN-POWELL PROMOTED. We are informed by the War Office that the Queen has approved the promotion of Colonel R.S.S. Baden-Powell to Major-General.

At the residence of Mrs. Baden-Powell it was ascertained late yesterday afternoon that she had received no direct news, but had heard the official tidings and also of the promotion bestowed upon her son. The front of the house was gaily decorated with flags

and bunting as well as a device formed of fairy lamps into the initials "B.-P." and the word "Mafeking," which were lighted up at dusk. Streams of carriages brought people anxious to renew the congratulations which followed the official news, and an enthusiastic crowd which occupied the roadway cheered in concert from time to time, a band of youthful students leading the demonstration.

In many places in the country rejoicings over the relief of Mafeking were continued yesterday, business being suspended, a holiday being given to the school children, and collections being taken in aid of Lady Georgiana Curzon's fund.

WIMBLEDON. — After the relief of Mafeking had been celebrated at Wimbledon by a torchlight procession on Saturday night a crowd marched to Cambridge-house, Wimbledon-park-road, the residence of Mr. W.T. Stead, and in the early hours of Sunday morning invaded the grounds and did much damage to the flower-beds and conservatory windows. The demonstrators remained a considerable time hooting, yelling, ringing bells, and generally making a great disturbance. During the celebrations the Union Jack at the Wimbledon Liberal Club was torn down and some of the windows of the building were smashed.

NEWS

Ministers fight back at Thatcher

Senior Conservatives rounded on Baroness Thatcher after she attacked John Major's leadership and accused the Government of dodging important decisions. Kenneth Clarke led the counter-offensive, accusing the former Prime Minister of rewriting history and pointing out that many of the Government's problems had arisen from her administration. Others privately described Lady Thatcher as "an irrelevance", "out of touch" and "suffering the effects of sour grapes". Pages 1, 8

Blair promises tough inflation policy

Tony Blair will make a decisive break with Labour's past by pledging that the war against inflation will be at the centre of his economic policy. The Labour leader will tell his party that it faces a "long haul" to put the economy right. Page 1

Girl murdered

A girl of 14 was sexually assaulted, beaten and then strangled as she travelled home after meeting a friend in Leeds. Page 1

Club warfare

A clubland putsch is being plotted against the old guard of the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club in a renewed attempt to secure equal treatment for women. Page 1

Union clash

Contenders for the top job in Labour's biggest trade union clashed as Bill Morris accused his challenger for the leadership of the TGWU of having "a lust for power". Page 2

Sons comforted

The three boys separated from their parents after a judge jailed the pair for lying over a minor motoring offence have been told by relatives that their mother and father are on holiday. Page 3

North Sea alert

Thousands of tons of deadly chemicals are continuing to pour into the North Sea despite a ten-year clean-up aimed at protecting birds, marine mammals and fish stocks. Page 6

Tory anger

The Tories enter the final week of the Perth and Kinross by-election angered by allegations that the late Sir Nicholas Fairbairn, had an illegitimate son. Page 8

Rewriting the script

The Heritage Secretary who recently found himself unable to remember the last film he had seen tried to prove his interest by spending a day at the Cannes Film Festival. But the script did not go as Stephen Dorrell had expected. As he was whisked between meetings two leading film-makers launched a vicious attack on his apparent lack of interest in his brief. Page 1

Extremists defeated

The extreme right-wing Vlaams Blok, which campaigns against immigration, failed to make a predicted breakthrough in Belgium's general election. Page 12

Arizona gunfight

A defiant National Rifle Association declared war on the White House at its convention in Arizona, showing just how profoundly many heartland Americans distrust their Government. Page 9

Diplomatic battle

America is flexing its diplomatic muscles to block proposals for deep cuts in the UN force in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Page 11

EU fraud

If the subsidised butter exported to the tiny Pyrenean country of Andorra under the common agricultural policy was consumed there, every citizen would have to eat three and a half pounds a day. Page 12

Biggest royal tomb

Egyptologists examining a tomb in the Valley of the Kings, which is believed to be the burial chamber for 50 sons of Ramses II, think it is the biggest pharaonic burial chamber found. Page 13

Rushdie hope

New signs emerged that the Iranian Government may take steps towards lifting the six-year-old death sentence on Salman Rushdie. Page 13



Finishing touches being made yesterday to displays for The Chelsea Flower Show which opens with Royal Day. Pages 5, 20

BUSINESS

Camelot Group: The operator of the National Lottery is expected to face a storm of protest when it announces maiden profits of more than £15 million. Page 44

Lloyds: A compensation package of more than £2.5 billion for names will be announced tomorrow, coinciding with news that names have lost a further £1.5 billion, pushing losses over five years to nearly £9 billion. Page 44

Hard work: The Government will claim that Britain's industrial competitiveness is improving as it proposes ways of further boosting performance. Page 44

Decision day: ICI will learn today whether a fresh bid for Grow Group, the US paintmaker, has been accepted. Page 44

FEATURES

On stage: Dr Nancy Lane, who teaches zoology at Cambridge, says her acting experience is invaluable in the lecture theatre. Page 16

Libby Purves: "Just because men ignored and belittled women's feelings for centuries there is no reason we should do it to them". Page 17

The biggest audition: "Who knows if the next man to munter in your ear is a tripper from Nice, a rep from the porno contingent or Quentin Tarantino". Julia Llewellyn Smith in Cannes. Page 17

EDUCATION

Important choice: Twenty years ago, an MBA guaranteed a good job. Nowadays employers no longer ask "do you have an MBA?" but "where did you get it?". Page 37

ARTS

Flying the flag: In his first report from the Cannes Film Festival, Geoff Brown looks at the wealth of British period dramas in competition and some notable directorial debuts from abroad. Page 14

Rock show: Little Richard and Chuck Berry carried the show when fellow rock 'n' roller Fats Domino "took ill". Page 14

Dance history: Birmingham Royal Ballet presented a trio of historic ground-breaking ballets at Covent Garden, including the 1942 masterpiece *Pillar of Fire*. Page 14

Floppy revival: Mary Chase's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *Harvey*, comes back to the West End. But even television stalwarts Gordon Kaye and Rue McClanahan cannot save it. Page 15

SPORT

Football: Everton's revival brings triumph for them and despair for Manchester United. Page 27

West Indies: The poor form of Richie Richardson, the captain, and Curtly Ambrose, the fast bowler, is causing the tourists concern after their draw with Somerset. Page 29

Rugby union: England are debating whether to bring in Dewi Morris at scrum half for their opening game of the World Cup. Page 23

Rugby league: Wigan completed a clean sweep of the four domestic competitions by winning the Premiership with a 69-12 victory over Leeds. Page 30

Golf: Severiano Ballesteros won the Spanish Open for a third time with a two-stroke advantage over fellow Spaniards, José Rivero and Ignacio Garrido. Page 24

Crickets: Robin Smith, the forgotten man of English cricket despite his impressive record, is hooked on a return to the international arena. Page 28

Racing: Spectrum has been cut to 3-1 for the Derby after winning the Irish 2,000 Guineas. Page 31

Schools: Dorset, which does not possess a first-class county side, has two of the most prolific century-making schoolboys in the country. Page 28

LOTTERY NUMBERS

15, 16, 17, 28, 32, 46. Bonus: 22

TV LISTINGS

Preview: A woman doctor faced with Victorian prejudice. *Braveheart* (TV, 9 pm) **Review:** Lynne Truss on Sunday night's "crushing rural misery". Page 43

OPINION

The me-too economy

If, as is likely, the economy is still performing well in 1997, Tony Blair will not want to fight a general election over economics. Page 19

Wrongs of way

Just as attempts to "unblock" established footpaths deserve support, so the objective of the Ramblers Association to assert a right to roam over all uncultivated land does not. Page 19

A rugby rainbow

The staging of the Rugby World Cup will dwarf in its consequence every other occasion in the history of South African sport. Page 11

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

In diplomatic terms, one of the dangers of the war in Bosnia is that it will break the alliances. There are significant differences of attitude inside the European Union. There are much greater differences inside Nato. Page 19

PETER RIDDELL

It is no good MPs complaining about the intrusiveness of Brussels if they do not attempt to influence European legislation before decisions are reached. Page 19

OBITUARIES

Evelyn Lincoln, former personal secretary to President Kennedy; **John Rich,** former British Ambassador; **Elisha Cook, Jr.,** character actor; **Professor Siegfried Steh,** Hebrew scholar. Page 2

LETTERS

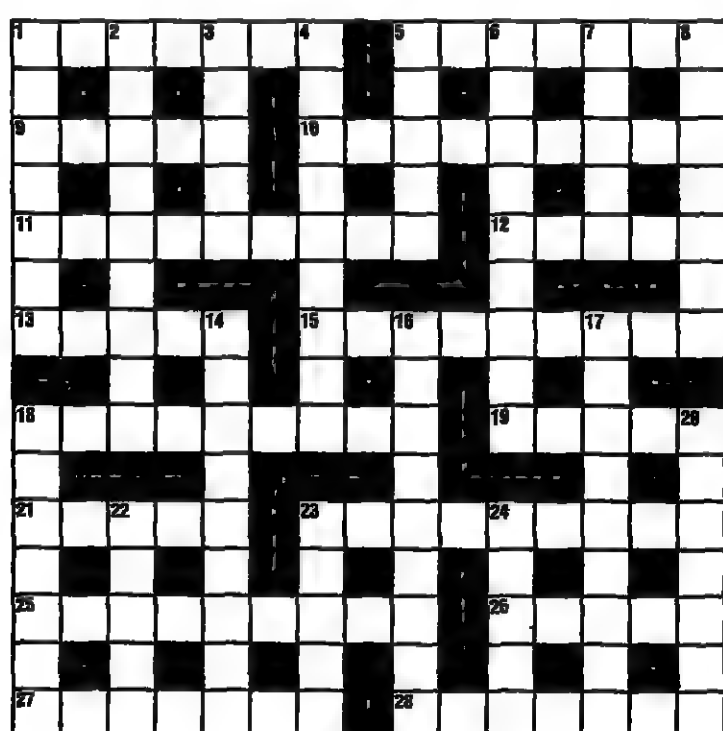
Lord Montagu of Beaulieu on tourist road signs: the Nolan debate. Page 11

THE PAPERS

It will be a triumph for Jerry Adams this week: he will have St Patrick Mayhem in one hand and an Armalite in the other. Page 11

The Government has lectured us often enough that those who have nothing to hide, have nothing to fear. MPs should follow that and open the books. Page 11

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,861



ACROSS

- Established Oriental and French wine turnover last month (7)
- Uninhibited individual finding entertainment substandard (4-3)
- Right held by parents in Italy (5)
- Getting badly beat means humiliation (9)
- Never leaves off (9)
- For the present time it's 21 (5)
- Projector with an arm-rest (5)
- People asking questions of pitmen following cut-back (9)
- The growth in gold was good for the speculator (9)
- 23 dn can set one so at odds (5)
- Saw non-drinker in low accommodation (5)
- A person looking around needs spectacles always (9)
- Observes focus is an optical problem (3-6)

DOWN

- Trains one or two (5)
- Attack when alone (7)
- The section empowered to supply heating (7)
- Certainly not slow to speak (7)
- Realise it may be different for an old tribesman (9)
- Many Scots long to be a big noise! (5)
- They're put across in round figures (9)
- Make-up wins a lover (5)
- Being candid about relation's employment (9)
- Foreign character taking part in some game or other (5)
- Thickhead's embroilment (7)
- Discovering corruption in an order, he's choked (9)
- The eccentric can rage or bluster (9)
- No longer in accord over a charge, that's clear (9)
- Modify a painting technique (7)
- "Life is real! Life is —" (Long-fellow) (7)
- A link that is apparent in deposit being raised (3-2)
- Points are given for 19 (5)
- Board's report about bad start (5)

KNOCKLANDS

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,860 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

Times Two Crossword, page 44

TIMES WEATHERCAST

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Region	Forecast
Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Devon & Cornwall	703
Wilt, Glouce, Avon, Dorset	704
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	705
Northants, Suffol, Cambs	706
West Mid & Sh, Glam & Gwent	707
Shrops, Herefords & Worcs	708
Central Midlands	709
East Midlands	710
Lincoln & Humberside	711
Derby & Powys	712
W & S Yorks & Dales	713
N & E England	714
Cumbria & Lake District	715
S & W Scotland	716
W & N Scotland	717
Edin & Fife, Lothian & Borders	718
E Central Scotland	719
Grampian & E Highlands	720
N & W Scotland	721
Channel Islands & Guernsey	722
N Ireland	723

Weathercast is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0330 401 followed by the appropriate code.

Area	Code	Notes
London & SE	701	
Anglia	702	
East of Anglia	703	
East of Anglia	704	
East of Anglia	705	
East of Anglia	706	
East of Anglia	707	
East of Anglia	708	
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East of Anglia	717	
East of Anglia	718	
East of Anglia	719	
East of Anglia	720	
East of Anglia	721	
East of Anglia	722	
East of Anglia	723	

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day temp: Torquay, Devon, 17C (63F); lowest day temp: Bournemouth, Dorset, 8C (46F); highest night temp: Bournemouth, Dorset, 14C (57F); lowest night temp: Bournemouth, Dorset, 14C (57F).

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FORECAST

General: Mainly dry with some sunshine. England and Wales will have a fine, mainly dry day. The north may be cloudy at times but otherwise there will be sunny spells, especially in the south. It will become quite warm in light winds, but sea breezes will keep coasts fresher and a little cooler. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be cloudy on the whole but, while the east may catch some sunny intervals, the west will have a little rain, especially at first. Southerly winds will be slightly up on Sunday.

London, E Midlands, W Midlands, NW England, Central N: Dry, sunny spells. Wind south or southeast light. Max 18C (66F).

SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E England, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales: Dry, sunny spells. Wind between east and south light. Max 18C (64F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands: Rather cloudy, few spots of rain. Wind south mainly moderate. Max 16C (61F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, Mearns: Dry, a few sunny intervals. Wind south light or moderate. Max 17C (63F).

NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy, patchy rain or drizzle. Wind south moderate or fresh, decreasing. Max 13C (55F).

Argyll, N Ireland: Cloudy, patchy rain at first. Wind south mainly moderate. Max 15C (59F).

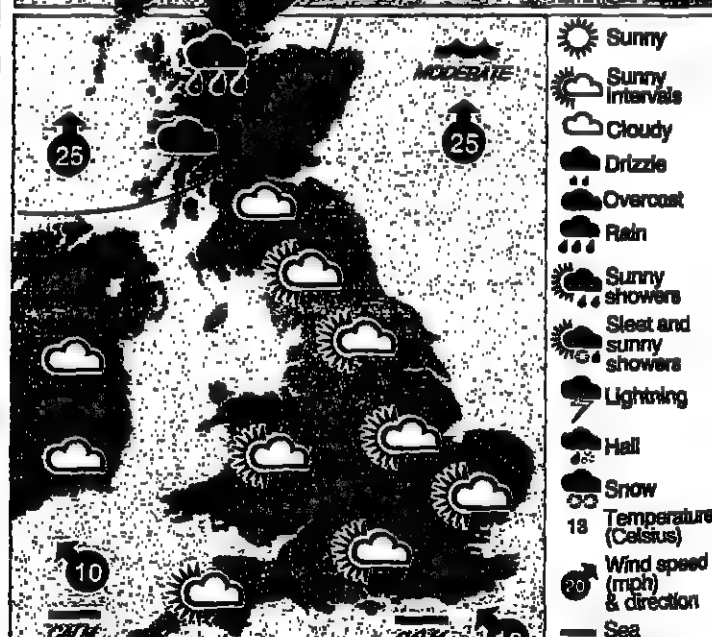
Outlooks: Rain spreading in from the west, thundery over England and Wales later. Temperatures above normal.

AROUND THE BAY

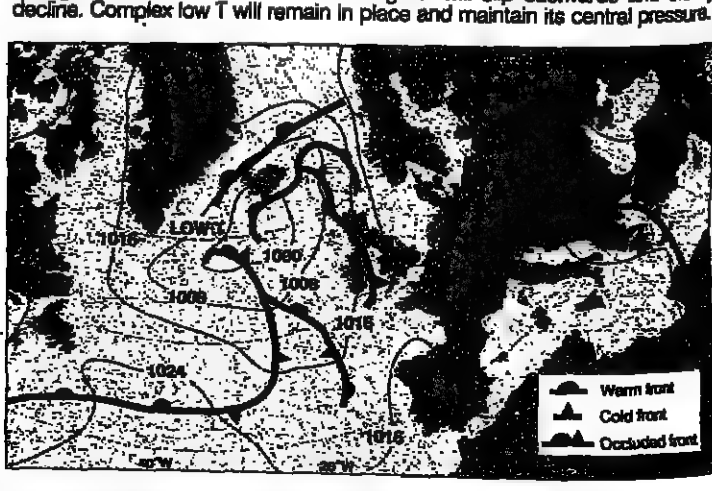
Area	Temp	Wind	Sea
Aberdeen	10.4	10	10
London	10.4	10	10
Lowestoft	10.4	10	10
Manchester	10.4	10	10
Marazion	10.4	10	10
Minehead	10.4	10	10
Morcambe	10.4	10	10
Newcastle	10.4	10	10
Newquay	10.4	10	10
Northampton	10.4	10	10
Orford	10.4	10	10
Perth	10.4	10	10
Plymouth	10.4	10	10
Poole	10.4	10	10
Preswain	10.4	10	10
Ross-o-rye	10.4	10	10
Rydals	10.4	10	10
Sandown	10.4	10	10
Sandown	10.4	10	10
Scarborough	10.4	10	10
Scilly Isles	10.4	10	10
Shetland	10.4	10	10
Shrewsbury	10.4	10	10
Skagness	10.4	10	10
Southend	10.4	10	10
Southport	10.4	10	10
Southsea	10.4	10	10
Sunderley	10.4	10	10
Tenby	10.4	10	10
Torquay	10.4	10	10
Weymouth	10.4	10	10

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available.

MOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: High B will slip eastwards and slowly decline. Complex low T will remain in place and maintain its central pressure.



HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun sets: 5:00 am. Moon sets: 1:42 pm.

Sun rises: 9:45 pm. Moon rises: 5:34 pm.

London 5:56 pm to 4:58 am. Bristol 5:56 pm to 4:58 am.

Manchester 5:56 pm to 4:58 am. Perth 5:56 pm to 4:58 am.

Perth 5:56 pm to 4:58 am. Perth 5:56 pm to 4:58 am.

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Perth 5:56 pm to 4:58 am. Perth 5:56 pm to 4:58 am.

GOLF

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Seve back to his brilliant best on home soil

FOOTBALL

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Southall's heroics the final blow for United

CRICKET

29

Lathwell dazzles as Somerset hold off W Indies

ANALYSIS

33

Where are the best sportsmen in the land raised?

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY MAY 22 1995



Michael Lynagh, left, the Australian captain, leads Jason Little, centre, and Matthew Kini during a World Cup training session in Stellenbosch yesterday. Australia, the champions, are favourites

'We are now one of the leading nations and we must not slip'

England ready for giant step

WHO would have dreamed the world of rugby union could have moved so quickly? Eight years ago, when I played in my first World Cup, it was like a leap in the dark for all of us. Now the pace changes almost daily and the alliance formed last week by the three southern-hemisphere nations, seven days before the third World Cup begins here in South Africa, ensures another step forward.

We, England's players and administrators, were forewarned of this when we toured in South Africa a year ago. That tour opened the eyes of those who run the game in the northern hemisphere and if we are going to compete on the same plane as Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, we will have to follow suit.

There is no question of turning back or breaking away. I believe that this is something England's leading players came to terms with as long ago as 1988, when we toured in Australia — several of us, Dean Richards, Peter Winterbottom, Brian Moore, Will Carling, sat down after that tour and decided that there was no reason why we should not compete at the level of the Australians.

All of us, except Will, had played in the 1987 World Cup, which was driven by Australia and New Zealand. The northern hemisphere countries, with the exception of France, had not been supportive of the tournament and knew little about what to expect; there had been no qualification process, the competing countries consisted of those who were lucky enough to receive an

invitation to play in it. But even in 1991, when the World Cup really took off during the staging of the second tournament in Britain and France, we were still slightly in awe of the southern-hemisphere countries. The first match, against New Zealand at Twickenham, showed that and so did the final which we lost to Australia. But that event did provide an enormous boost for rugby, it lifted the game onto the public stage like nothing had done before.

Now we are approaching the third tournament, with a proper qualification process — teams like Andorra,



Rob Andrew, England stand-off, reports from a confident World Cup training camp in Durban

Germany, Lithuania have been involved — but the driving forces are the same with the difference that England, and perhaps France, are up there too. We believe we have earned the right to occupy the same level but the sad thing is that the rest of the world has not been able to keep up. The five countries which have all, at one time or another, been tipped as likely winners in Ellis Park, Johannesburg, next month have opened a gap and the signs are that the gap will get wider.

Those five are the countries with the resources, the players and the stadia, the commercial backing and we saw last week the resolve of the southern hemisphere to maintain their primacy. They have formed a company to control the game at international and provincial level in this part of the world and it is not a question whether England decide to go with them — they must. I think the public, never mind the players, will demand that.

That is the stage the game has arrived at. Words like amateur or professional do not come into it at the moment. It is a matter of accepting the progress the game is making and ensuring we are in a position to influence it, on and off the pitch. As it happens I think we are heading rapidly towards the situation which Australia and New Zealand have reached, of player contracts, but I do not believe they

will be exclusive of people earning a living outside the game. There is not enough money below representative level for players to sustain a career from rugby alone.

The England squad representatives have worked hard to create a good commercial atmosphere and, at last, we are getting somewhere. Although I hope to carry on for another year or two, it is not my generation of players who will benefit from that work but the next one and there are signs now that those players will be able to work alongside the Rugby Football Union.

If that proves to be the case, then it is possible that some players of my generation may consider becoming involved in rugby administration but only if they believe there is unity about the approach to the future. That really is the point as we prepare for the 1995 World Cup: whether we win the tournament or not we are regarded now as one of the world's leading nations and we must not slip from that position.

Conceivably there will be a problem with the other home unions because they have not the physical or economic resources that we have, yet our concern has to be with England. If we succeed, and it is a big if, then rugby union will receive another tremendous boost: the vital thing is that the players here believe they are good enough.

□ Rob Andrew was talking to David Hands

For form guide, see World Cup supplement

Leading article, page 19

England prepare, page 24

Horan misses World Cup opener

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, IN DURBAN

AUSTRALIA will start their defence of the Webb Ellis trophy with eight of the players who won it four years ago when the World Cup began in Cape Town on Thursday. Five forwards and three backs played at Twickenham in the 12-6 win over England in 1991, which gives them a solid core of experience against the host nation, South Africa.

Bob Dwyer, the coach, has resisted the temptation to bring back Tim Horan at the first opportunity, preferring to stay with the midfield combination that played well in the two recent internationals against Argentina and, in particular, the centre pairing of Jason Little and Daniel Herbert that has been outstanding this season for Queensland.



Pienaar: recovered

flank. Dan Crowley is given another opportunity at loose-head prop, though Tony Daly's claims to reinstatement are growing louder by the day.

After a week of worry over

SOUTH AFRICA: A. Joubert, J. Small, J. Mulder, H. le Roux, P. Hendricks, J. Stranksy, J. van der Westhuizen, P. du Randt, J. Dalton, S. Swart, F. Pienaar (captain), J. Strydom, M. Andrews, R. Kuger, R. Straal.

Replacements: G. Johnson, B. Venter, J. Roux, K. Otto, G. Pigeot, C. Rossouw.

AUSTRALIA: M. Pini, D. Smith, D. Herbert, J. Little, D. Campese, M. Lynagh (captain), G. Grayson, D. Crowley, P. Keane, E. McKenzie, V. Oshengwa, R. McCull, J. Eales, D. Wilson, T. Gavin.

Replacements: M. Burke, S. Bowen, P. Bestley, T. Coker, M. Hardill, M. Foley.

Referee: W.D. Bevan (Wales).

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Deadpan Davies fails final excitement test

Just a few weeks ago I recall commending Barry Davies for the "quiet dignity" that he brought to the Boat Race. Well, all I can say after the 90 minutes of quiet dignity he brought to the FA Cup Final is — bring back John Motson. In fact, bring back anyone who can inject a bit of noise and excitement into soccer's big day out.

Davies is in danger of turning into the Tom Fleming of the BBC sports department. Impeccably researched (from the club loyalties of the Princes Harry and William to the little known fact that Denis Irwin once played for an Irish team called Everton) and dependably accurate, he looks an automatic first choice for the big occasion.

But you can have too much of that quiet voice of calm.

From the moment a mahogany-tanned Des Lynam handed over a full 20 minutes before kick-off, Davies adopted a smug tone of mock solemnity that made one year for the high octane incredulity of his predecessor. Motson is surprised by everything — every sentence, every word is followed either by an audible question mark or even noisier exclamation mark. Davies, it seems, is surprised by nothing — all his sentences can be relied on to end in a sensible and controlled full stop.

True, he has some nice turns of phrase ("one hamstring gone, one hamstring to be gambled on" as Giggs arrived for the second half) but too often they have the staged air of something prepared in advance and filed under "just in case". As in — just in case



MATTHEW BOND
TV ACTION REPLAY

Manchester United are losing at half-time, then "at the end of the season, there is no place to hide for Alex Ferguson" might come in useful.

But there were other reasons for thinking that the BBC's FA Cup coverage still has some way to go before it reaches the dizzy heights of its award-winning Grand National coverage. Lynam's studio, for instance, was as crowded as the Everton penalty box but, just like Manchester United, Messrs

Hill, Hansen and Lineker still could not score a goal. "We're paying a fortune for these kind of opinions," joked Lynam before kick-off. "but perhaps we'll get more sense at half-time."

Well, perhaps he would have done if the three experts had been given more time to discuss the many replays that the director had rightly left to half-time. But after just seven hurried minutes of that it was competition time — first the rather silly Goal of the FA Cup

and second the hugely enjoyable but hardly relevant Goal of the Season. Now, I realise that half-time in the FA Cup guarantees that the goals are seen by one of the biggest Grandstand audiences of the year, but surely the competition could be given an extended slot in the tediously long build-up to kick-off. As the BBC admitted with the entertaining FA Cup Hell, the road to Wembley is a long one for viewers. Moving Goal of the Season would live it up a bit — especially for the neutral supporter — and leave half-time clear for the business in hand.

Moreover, if the BBC are serious about getting their money's worth out of their experts, they could get them on rather earlier than half-an-hour before kick-off, perhaps

with prepared rather than off-the-cuff thoughts about the tactical battles ahead. Late team selections don't make such things easy, but nor do they make them impossible.

There were 19 cameras, I am told, at Wembley but still it did not seem quite enough. Although there were cameras capturing the drama of the dug-outs (including, improbably, an action replay of Joe Royle winking at Alex Ferguson) any action near the touch-line was seen only from afar. It would also have been rewarding if the director had had the capacity to dedicate one camera to Steve Bruce, once the extent of his injury became clear to all but the United captain and his manager. Winking was one thing, but some action replay limping was definitely in order too.

England leaving little to chance in preparations for opening game

Morris set to regain scrum-half position

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT IN DURBAN

SO IT does rain in South Africa. The weather broke upon Cape Town on Saturday, as the 16 countries that will contest the 1995 Rugby World Cup assembled for the official welcome lunch, and swept over Durban as England enjoyed a private barbecue yesterday. Let us hope that it is not an omen for the tournament, or the talk of firm pitches and running rugby will be, excuse the expression, hot air.

Not that England have trained in the wet, and what they have done has been hard. They did not care for the day-long disruption of the flight to Cape Town on Saturday and made up for it with a sweat-inducing session of nearly three hours yesterday, supervised by the largest phalanx of

due to be named tomorrow, although the suspicion is that the selectors decided some weeks ago how they would start. There is a distinct possibility that the XV will include Dewi Morris at scrum-half, ahead of Kyran Bracken. Morris oozes fitness while Bracken has not played since England beat Scotland on March 18.

"We will pick a side to start on the right footing and then improve," Rowell said. "Dean says he is within a couple of days of being fully fit, but if he is not, you have a world-class No 8 in Ben Clarke and Steve Ojomoh and Neil Back on the flank to choose from. I would like to see Clarke play No 8 to live Dean up a bit."

Rowell was circumspect in his references to the welcome lunch which, according to Sir Ewart Bell, the chairman of Rugby World Cup Ltd, "epitomised the concept of camaraderie and friendship which is the hallmark of the game." Few of the players sought to break training to attend, and Rowell added: "It's not easy for the players to catch up with the sleep debt and the rest debt, but that's behind us now."

Wales were in an even worse state, having left their headquarters in Bloemfontein before dawn. They flew with England from Cape Town and had to travel back via Durban. Wales brought in additional players from Orange Free State yesterday to make up the numbers in training and await the decision of the tournament director as to whether they play in their usual red against Japan on Saturday. Geoff Evans, the Wales manager, believes that there is scope for error if a change is not enforced, since the Japanese play in red and white stripes.

In his managerial capacity, Rowell also attended, in Cape Town, a meeting with the tournament referees, who are concerned with lineout and rucking techniques. The New Zealand management has tried to establish criteria for rucking which England, for one, do not agree with — hardly surprising in view of what players suffered at the feet of New Zealanders in 1993 and South Africans in 1994.

Wales hardly needed to lock the doors for their private training session yesterday and they were delighted there was nobody clamouring to watch them. With all the hype being directed elsewhere, Geoff Evans, the Wales manager, said: "It is wonderful they are backing off. The more they dismiss us, the more it fires us up. We will do our talking on the field."

coaching gurus that any English team has yet assembled.

In addition to Jack Rowell and Les Cusworth, the coaches, fitness, kicking and psychological advisers are all to hand. Little is left to chance, though Dean Richards continues to elude most of the experts. The Leicester No 8 did not risk his strained hamstring in the contact work that his colleagues undertook, and though he benefited to the extent that he missed the visit to Cape Town, Richards is clearly irritated by the injury.

"It's something which happened during the final week in [the] England [season]," he said. "I've worked pretty hard but there's no point risking further injury. You only have to look at the work the boys are doing to know you need to be 100 per cent."

The England team to play Argentina at the King's Park stadium here on Saturday is



Tim Rodber leaps for the ball ahead of Ben Clarke during England's light training session yesterday in Durban

and consequent damage to the game's image.

The other debate which will come before a further referees meeting, in Johannesburg today, concerns lifting and stepping sideways at the lineout. The first is now a matter of semantics — players can "sup-

port", they may not "lift" — the second purely of refereeing technique. The lineout step has become fashionable, but has now been banned, on the basis that, if referees insist upon the correct gap at the lineout, then the step is unnecessary and occupies even more

time in restarting the game.

Either way, the England lineout men believe that they can cope. They have trained not to step for more than a month and Martin Johnson, the Leicester lock, said that all any team required was consistency from referees. In that

respect, Derek Bevan's handling of the keynote game, between South Africa and Australia in Cape Town on Thursday, will set the tone for the tournament. No official is more experienced than the Welshman, who handled the 1991 final.

Halpin's recovery lifts Irish hopes

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

IRELAND will wait until Wednesday morning before announcing their team to meet New Zealand in their opening World Cup match, the team manager, Noel Murphy, said yesterday.

The London Irish prop, Garry Halpin, has been passed fit for the pool C encounter on Saturday, despite having picked up an ankle injury in training on Friday.

The match in Johannesburg will be played under floodlights and the Ireland squad took the chance to train in similar conditions at Ellis Park yesterday.

Ireland have never beaten New Zealand, their best result being a draw in Dublin in 1978.

The Scotland prop, Dave Hilton, has an ankle injury and is almost certainly out of the opening match against Ivory Coast at Rustenburg on Friday. The Scotland wing, Kenny Logan faces intensive treatment on a hamstring strain to prove his fitness for the game.

Hilton did not travel to the official World Cup opening ceremony in Cape Town yesterday because of the injury.

The Scotland manager, Duncan Patterson, said: "It is a world stage and we are reluctant to take chances with Dave or any other player who picks up an injury. There are one or two options we can use in this opening game, and we probably will."

Logan said: "I'm having a couple of sessions in the hotel swimming pool each day and I hope to be able to pass myself fully fit by Tuesday when the management will be naming the side to face the Ivory Coast. I fully expect to be available for that match."

France will go all out for victory in their final pool D match against Scotland — even if they have already qualified for the quarter-finals.

The French can secure qualification with victories in their opening games against Tonga and Ivory Coast, but they will be just as committed against Scotland on June 3 in Pretoria, the team manager, Guy Laporte, said yesterday.

Laporte stressed his side wanted victory in every game. "It would be a big mistake to relax," he said. "If by accident

something goes wrong, one can end up in a lot of trouble."

Laporte said he was happy with France's preparation for the tournament, which included high-altitude training in the Languedoc-Roussillon region.

The stand-off, Christophe Deylaud, who has been undergoing treatment on a broken thumb, rejoined the squad yesterday but did not work out with the rest of the back line. "The operation was a 100 per cent success," Deylaud said. "I'm fit and looking forward to getting back into action."

The veteran centre, Philippe Sella, who has been nursing an injured ankle, had a successful first training run and is ready to play in the opening match against Tonga in Pretoria on Friday.

The Canada centre, Christian Stewart, is struggling to recover from a foot injury and is a doubtful starter for his country's opening match. Stewart, 29, could miss the pool A game against Romania in Port Elizabeth on Friday after suffering a cut that needed four stitches after he caught the sole of his foot on a tile last week.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Milk Race ruled by cream of Ireland

IRISH riders had a field day in their 800-mile National Milk Race yesterday, ending the second stage with the top six positions overall (Peter Bryan writes). Brian Quinn, of Limerick, the country's top-seeded rider, won the 92-mile stage from Killeshandra to Tuam, outstripping Chris Newton and Matthew Illingworth, of Great Britain, but Michael Fitzgerald, the leader after the first day, remained the leader overall. The decisive split in the field of 160 came after 30 miles, when 20 riders went into the lead, later to be joined by another eight.

Fitzgerald starts the 105-mile run today, from Tuam to Tipperary, with 7sec in hand from Finn O'Sullivan. Newton is seventh, 1min 19sec behind.

Paul Curran, an amateur, the former double Commonwealth Games champion, won the Lands Classic 150-mile two-day race at Beverley, North Yorkshire, by 9sec from John Tanner.

Amaechi makes mark

BASKETBALL: John Amaechi celebrated his long awaited debut for England last night by contributing eight points to the 99-68 victory over Ireland at Eastleigh (Nicholas Harting writes). Amaechi, who is hoping to be drafted by Phoenix Suns in the National Basketball Association in the United States next autumn, did not start, but came on to play a significant part for the team which completed its preparations for the European championship qualifying round at the NEC in Birmingham later this week.

All 12 England players got on the scoresheet, led by Steve Bucknall with 18 points, three more than Peter Scantlebury and Kurt Samuels, who hit four three pointers. Ireland, pointless for the first three minutes, were eventually indebted to the 18 points of Frank Powell for avoiding an absolute rout.

Walton foiled by Liston

FENCING: George Liston, of Scotland and the Royal Air Force, won the British open epee title at Hendon Police College on Saturday when he pushed Sean Walton, also of Scotland, into second place, 15-10. With only one more event counting for domestic rankings — in Poitiers, France, next weekend — Liston's place in the world championship squad looks secure. Simon Austin, who was No 1 early in the season, could manage only seventh place after losing narrowly to Danny McKernan, a London-based Scot, 15-14 in the quarter-finals. McKernan went on to place equal third with Greg Allen, from London. James Chambers, the president of the Amateur Fencing Association, picked up the veterans' prize by finishing sixteenth.

France breaks duck

HANDBALL: France won the world championship in Iceland yesterday, beating Croatia 23-19. The handball team is the first French team to win a world title in any sport. They won bronze medals at the 1992 Olympic Games and were runners-up at world championships in Stockholm in 1993. The first seven qualify for the Olympics in Atlanta next year.

FINAL POSITIONS: 1, France; 2, Croatia; 3, Sweden; 4, Germany; 5, Russia; 6, Egypt; 7, Switzerland; 8, Czech Republic; 9, Belarus; 10, Romania; 11, Spain; 12, South Korea.

Groomed for defeat

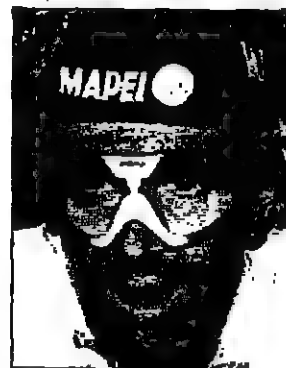
SQUASH: The absence of Bryan Beeson, the former England captain who was at his wedding on Saturday, may have cost his Durham club colleagues the Squash Rackets Association national club championship in Birmingham. After seeing off the challenge of 64 club teams through the season, Durham went down 4-1 at Edgbaston Priory to Coles, the Surrey club that is led by Danny Meddings, the England No 13.

Lumley eases through

REAL TENNIS: Penny Lumley, of Great Britain, the former world champion, reached the final of the women's world championship with an emphatic victory over Katrina Allen, her compatriot, at Newport, Rhode Island. Lumley, who is now playing off the best handicap achieved by a woman, was too mobile and consistent for the fluent Allen. She now meets Sue Haswell, the newcomer who kept her nerve well against Sally Jones, the defending champion.

Rominger retains edge

CYCLING: Rolf Sorensen, of Denmark, won the ninth stage of the Tour of Italy yesterday but Tony Rominger, right of Switzerland, who finished 13sec behind, kept the overall lead. Sorensen covered the 102 miles between Terme La Calda, a southern mountain town, and the coastal city of Salerno in 3hr 32min 12sec. Rominger is favoured to win the 26-mile time trial today. The race will end on June 4.



Mikkola close to victory

MOTOR RALLYING: Hannu Mikkola drove a cautious three stages from Tuxtla to Huasteco in his Ford Escort to take a lead of almost 12 minutes into the final day of the London to Mexico rally. Mikkola, from Finland, is set to take the event for a second time, 25 years after his first win. There was disappointment, however, for Richard Martin-Hurst, the British driver who was holding third place, when his Escort broke a half-shaft.

£25,000 GOLF MASTERS CHALLENGE WINNERS

Patrick Eccles from Belfast wins £25,000 for turning in a six under par performance over all 18 holes in The Times/The Sunday Times nine-week golf challenge.

And for the first time in the competition the winner of last week's holiday to The Equinox, Manchester Village, Vermont, M Young, has also picked up a daily prize of Wilson clubs for his efforts on hole 18 in The Times. The Sunday Times prize of Wilson clubs was won by Donna O'Meara of Bedford.

THE FINAL TABLE		Level par	
Six under par		A Mill, Northwich	
P Eccles, Belfast		One over par	
Four under par		M Wadgin, Beaconsfield	
J O'Neill, Knapman		J Todd, Birmingham	
Two under par		K Wild, Newcastle	
M Kilman, Wilton		Two over par	
J O'Neill, Harpenden		A Anderson, Grimsby	
D Grey, Bishop Auckland		J Hogan, Wimal	
One under par		Three over par	
J Lee, Cleethorpes		S Lottin, Telford	
C Corbett, London		A Pickard, Cambridgeshire	

THE TIMES Your chance to win the new £16,000 MGF

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Spaniard triumphs in tense finale

Ballesteros's short play wins hearts of home audience

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FROM MEL WEBB IN MADRID

ANOTHER jewel in a gem-encrusted crown was set by Severiano Ballesteros when he claimed his 55th PGA European Tour victory, and his 72nd worldwide, by winning the Spanish Open title for the first time for ten years at Club de Campo yesterday.

Ballesteros had a closing 71 for a total of 274, 14 under par, to beat his compatriots, José Rivero and Ignacio Garrido, by two strokes.

Gordon Brand Jr and Peter Baker were the leading Britons in joint fourth place a shot further back. It was Ballesteros's second win in a month after his victory in the Perrier Four-Ball event in partnership with José María Olazábal in April.

This was Ballesteros's third Spanish Open win, but he had never won his national title in his country's capital. The people of Madrid turned out in their thousands to urge him on, and he was visibly lifted by the reception he was given by the surging masses who walked at his side.

"I aged five years out there today," he said. "I knew I wasn't playing that well, and I had to convince myself out on the course that I had to make the best of what I had. The support I got out there was fantastic, but it took patience and determination for me to win the tournament."

It seemed that, after the third round, which had ended with Brand Jr four and Ballesteros three ahead of the pursuing pack, there was almost no contest left to fight. It looked likely then that the winner would be one of the two runaway leaders. Sure enough, that is the way it ended, but there were more challenges on this closing day than appeared possible at its start.

At various times during a steamy Spanish afternoon six men held or shared the lead on a day that was ultimately more memorable for its excitement than for the quality of the golf. Ballesteros made a terrible start, bogeying the first two holes, at which point Brand led by three shots.

Ballesteros appeared to be digging a pit for himself from which there could be no escape when he dropped yet another shot on the 3rd but he was let off the hook by Brand, who also produced a bogey on the hole.

From there on it was a dogfight, with Baker, Rivero, Garrido and Peter Mitchell at times pushing themselves to the top of the leaderboard alongside Brand and Ballesteros.

It was gritty rather than pretty, but the later stages of the day could not have contained more tension had the shots been choreographed, the action scripted.

It is a measure of Ballesteros's greatness that he has achieved so much with driving that has always been a thing of only occasional efficiency, and on this final day of the tournament he was at his best wayward off the tee. But there was majesty in some of his iron play and his work on and around the greens was as sharp as a tack.

Ballesteros settled rapidly after his three-bogey start, and he birdied the 4th. With his short irons singing sweetly he proceeded to the turn in 38, without further mishap, then birdied the 12th with a 20-foot putt.

He did not take the outright lead until he birdied the 15th, which he had four-putted on the first day.

This time there was no such prodigious waste, an exquisitely floated sand-wedge leaving him less than five feet from the pin.

Brand was a disappointed man after a 75, ten shots worse than the sparkling round he had produced on Saturday. "I didn't play that badly, I just couldn't do anything on the greens," he said.

"It just became harder and harder for me out there. I don't know what happened, really," he added. What happened to him, among other things, was that he came up against the might of Severiano Ballesteros on a day that was ruled by him. It went as it had been written: on that crucial 15th hole.

"It is there that I won, I think," Ballesteros said. "I knew Rivero and Garrido had finished on 12 under, so after that it was a matter of keeping an eye on Gordon Brand and making sure I didn't beat myself." There was never any chance of that.

SCORES

LEADING FINAL ROUND SCORES (GB and Ireland in brackets): 274: S Ballesteros (Spain) 70, 67, 71, 66; J Rivero (Spain) 69, 71, 68, 69; I Garrido (Spain) 67, 65, 74, 69; 277: P Baker (Ireland) 68, 68, 68, 71; G Brand Jr (Ireland) 67, 73, 72, 63; 278: G Garrido (Spain) 70, 69, 69, 70; P Mitchell (Ireland) 71, 70, 69, 68; J Townsend (Ireland) 69, 67, 71, 72; 280: J Morrison (Ireland) 70, 74, 67, A Soriano (Spain) 71, 73, 69, M Ben (Spain) 68, 74; 281: M Moles (Spain) 70, 73, 68, P Linher (Spain) 71, 69, 68, M Castañeda (Spain) 73, 71, 68; 282: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 283: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 284: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 285: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 286: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 287: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 288: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 289: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 290: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 291: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 292: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 293: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 294: M Moles (Spain) 71, 70, 68, 69; 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Bruguera faces Austrian challenge

Roman rain delays Muster's bid for clay-court crown

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT, IN ROME

AS Thomas Muster and Sergi Bruguera waited for the rain to cease and the sky to clear here yesterday afternoon, they could at least take heart from some statistics.

Almost a quarter of the competitors who have reached the 51 finals of the Italian Open have gone on to feature in the final of the French Open. Since 1973, six of the winners in the Foro Italico have been crowned as champions in Paris three weeks later.

They have, in turn, been Ilie Nastase, Bjorn Borg twice, Adriano Panatta, Ivan Lendl and, three years ago, Jim Courier. Bruguera already holds the French title but Muster, by his own admission, has never before been a contender other than in 1990, when he made it to the semi-final.

Yet, during Bruguera's absence through injury, the Austrian developed into the leading clay-court exponent in the world. Since being knocked out in the second round in Palermo seven months ago, he has remained unbeaten on his favourite surface in 27 matches.

His impressive run was severely endangered, though, in the semi-final on Saturday against Wayne Ferreira, of South Africa. In the final set, Muster was 2-3 and 0-40 down but recovered to take 17 of the last 20 points. "After saving those three break points," he

said later, "everything went my way."

Including the support of the spectators, who respond to his audible and overt competitiveness. "Italians have a good understanding of sport," Muster proclaimed. "There is a lot going on and they love to come and watch it. Austrians prefer television to bring it into their houses."

Bruguera has collected all but one of his 14 titles on clay but had never qualified for the final in Rome before. He did so by beating Goran Ivanisevic in straight sets. The Croatian, in one of his characteristic states of lethargy, had the misfortune to be foot-faulted on match point.

Ivanisevic, not usually



Muster: impressive run

Sánchez Vicario in top form for Paris

FROM ALIX RAMSAY IN BERLIN

A DISPLAY of controlled aggression saw Arantxa Sánchez Vicario to her first German Open title yesterday, besting Magdalena Maleeva 6-4, 6-1. It was a win that boosted her confidence a week before the start of the French Open and confirmed her world No 1 ranking, ahead of Steffi Graf.

From the start, the Spaniard never allowed Maleeva to get into her stride and, as the match progressed, so the Bulgarian became an increasingly despondent figure. At times she struggled just to keep the ball in court, handing Sánchez Vicario point after point.

"But she doesn't give you anything," Maleeva said. "You never know if you have hit a winner because she gets everything back. I did what I could but I could do better."

It was a disappointing performance from Maleeva. Throughout the tournament she had attacked every opponent, chasing every chance and putting her opponents on the defensive from the first game. Yesterday she was a different player. On the few occasions when she was able

to put pressure on the top seed, Sánchez Vicario just raised her game another notch.

For Sánchez Vicario, her week in Berlin has been the best possible preparation for the defence of her French Open title. In the early rounds she was able to win without playing to her own high standards while, in the semi-final, she was made to fight when Irina Spirlea took her to three sets. Yesterday she dominated a final against an opponent she regards as "a very dangerous player".

She showed no sign of weakness, serving better than she had in earlier rounds and never allowing Maleeva a hint of a chance. "This was my best match all week," she said. "It is a very good warm-up for Paris. This is a great win for me."

Now, with another \$148,500 (£96,000) in the bank, she plans to spend a few days at home to practise and prepare her challenge for a third French title. "I know from this that I am in great form and that is the place to show it—at a grand slam."

Holyfield back on championship trail

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

EVANDER HOLYFIELD, the former heavyweight champion, defeated Ray Mercer in a gruelling, non-title bout over ten rounds in Atlantic City on Saturday, scoring a unanimous points decision.

Holyfield showed no signs of the heart problems that doctors first thought he had after losing his titles last April. They were later discounted by other doctors.

He knocked Mercer down in the eighth round with a left hook following a left-right combination. Just before the bell ended the round, Holyfield staggered Mercer with a right to the head.

The judge, Eugene Grant, scored the bout 96-93. Eva Shain had it 97-92 and Jean Williams gave Holyfield the edge 95-94.

A cut from a head butt opened alongside Holyfield's right eye but the blood, although flowing freely, streamed down the side of his face and not into his eye.

At the end Mercer raised his hands and shouted: "Yes. The real warrior." But after the decision was announced he slumped over the ropes, his face twisted in disbelief.

"I was able to hit him with some great body shots," Holyfield said, "but he's a vicious guy and his hard to get him down with one punch."

Holyfield, his head shaved for a bout for the first time,

appeared to be even more heavily-muscled than usual. "When I knocked him down in the eighth round, I knew I got the momentum back," Holyfield said. "Ray Mercer did more than I thought he would do. His jab was a lot quicker than I thought."

The contest was halted briefly in the eighth round by the referee, who called in Frank Duggett, the ringside doctor, to look at Holyfield's cut. Both boxers landed hard, crowd-pleasing punches throughout, but Holyfield landed more of them and in more combinations than did Mercer.

Holyfield lost his World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation titles to Michael Moorer last April.

This victory clearly puts him back in the mix of heavyweights looking for title contests against any of the three champions of the leading sanctioning bodies.

On the same bill, Hector "Macho" Camacho retained his International Boxing Council welterweight title with a unanimous 12-round decision over Homer Gibbins.

Dariusz Michalczewski, of Germany, retained his World Boxing Organisation light-heavyweight title in Hamburg on Saturday, knocking out the American, Paul Carlo, in the fourth round.

averse to voicing his opinion in the umpire's direction, remained silent. "I wanted to tell him a lot of things but I might be fined and suspended again," he explained. "I didn't say anything but I still think what I think he is."

Muster holds the psychological edge over Bruguera, having won seven of their ten previous matches and all of the last four. Nevertheless, he was not expecting the final to be brief. "We might have to book the court for the whole afternoon," he had predicted. Instead it was empty.

A decision on the eligibility of Greg Rusedski to play for Britain has been taken but not yet revealed. The management committee of the International Tennis Federation (ITF) has discussed the matter here and intends to announce the verdict today.

Diplomacy is given as the reason for the delay. The ITF would prefer that the Lawn Tennis Association and the Canadian Federation read the fax messages that have been sent to them before finding out through the media which nation the left-hander born in Canada to a British mother 21 years ago is to represent in future.

However, the gesture of courtesy was misplaced. The president of the Canadian Federation is on holiday and is not expected to return home until Tuesday.

Rusedski was supposed to have been told of his fate on Saturday, but the bureaucratic cogs are turning even more slowly than had been expected. David Lloyd, the new captain of the British Davis Cup team, still does not know whether the player, ranked 58th in the world, will be available for the tie.

Only if official approval is given can Rusedski be selected to play against Monaco at Eastbourne in July. Should Britain continue a sequence of failure that has lasted for three years, the country would be relegated to group three of the Euro-African zone, effectively the fourth division.

Meanwhile Rusedski overcame a mild case of tonsillitis on Saturday to beat Javier Frana 7-6, 6-4 and reach the final of the Red Clay Championships in Coral Springs, Florida. The other semi-final was won by Todd Woodbridge, who rallied to beat Mark Woodforde, the fourth seed, and his long-time doubles partner, 1-6, 7-5, 7-5 in an all-Australian semi-final.

Rusedski, who had to cope with a three-hour rain delay in the opening set tie-break, said: "I knew I had to win the first set to win the match. I didn't think I'd have enough energy to go three sets with that long rain delay." He reached his first clay-court final by breaking the Argentinean in the fifth game of the second set.

Monarchs make vital recovery

BY RICHARD WETHERILL

TWO big plays in the first quarter helped the London Monarchs to a crucial, nervy, 27-22 win against the Barcelona Dragons in the World League of American Football on Saturday. The victory gives them a chance of qualifying for the World Bowl, something that is well out of reach of the Scottish Claymores who lost their sixth game out of seven, 30-13 to the unbeaten Amsterdam Admirals. Their season is effectively over.

After an opening drive by the Dragons that ended with a field goal from Scott Szerezy, Eric Stephens returned the kick-off 90 yards for a Monarchs touchdown. Szerezy's second field goal, from 23 yards, also got a quick response when Alan Allen caught a 58-yard touchdown pass.

Don Silvestri kicked two field goals to another by Szerezy before a long drive by Barcelona in the third quarter ended with a touchdown by Lindsey Chapman. The Monarchs replied through Mark Tilley to make the score 27-15.

The Dragons came back with a touchdown by Tyrec Davis and when they got the ball back with Imin 4sec left they almost won the game, but on the final play, Kevin Porter tipped the ball away from Mario Henry's grasp.



The Oxford runners, Nneenna Lynch and Claire Martin, the eventual winner, in the women's 1,500 metres on Saturday. Photograph: Andre Camara

Cambridge builds for future on fast track

BY JOHN GOODBODY

THE embers of the era of *Chariots of Fire* were rekindled at Cambridge on Saturday when the university officially opened its first all-weather track with the 121st athletics match against Oxford.

This is a momentous year for athletics at Oxford and Cambridge as it celebrates the centenary of the first match against Harvard and Yale and the 75th anniversary of Achilles, the club composed of former athletes from the two universities.

Cambridge has long been envious of the track at Iffley Road, scene of Roger Bannister's first sub-four-minute mile in 1954. There have been all-weather tracks at Oxford since 1976, and the advantages have been reflected by the results in the annual matches, with Cambridge having won only six of the past 18 men's fixtures.

Not only have talented athletes been attracted by the track at Oxford but, until yesterday, the annual fixture was regularly held there. Oxford won the

men's match by 123 points to 100. Yet all was not tranquil amid the satisfaction of the opening yesterday as part of the new £4.3 million sports complex in west Cambridge. An independent company, MSC, which has scrutinised the work of Balsam, has reported that the track is not up to international standards in certain areas.

Tony Lemons, director of physical education at the university, said: "There is nothing wrong with the

track as it is now. Our concerns are for the long term. The question is whether in four or five years it might delaminate and bubble. Balsam has suggested that it extend the guarantee period of five years and give financial guarantees. The university and the company are in negotiations about this." The track also suffers from not having adequate protection from the winds that blow across The Fens.

However, Ruth Irving, the interna-

tional long jumper and Cambridge president, inspired the women's team to a 90-89 victory against Oxford in the match sponsored by Price Waterhouse, and she said: "Cambridge was one of the worst universities for athletics facilities. Now it is one of the best. This track will make a huge difference. For people with international ambitions, a track like this is an attraction. Last winter we were having to train on grass."

The athletes in light blue will be able to use it to prepare for the centenary match against Harvard and Yale at Oxford on June 28. This will include a veterans' match, in which Chris Brasher, Chris Chataway and Bruce Tulloh are expected to run. The next night there will be a banquet at the Guildhall, which both Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee, and Primo Nebiolo, the president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation, will attend.

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Ngugi's dope test ban lifted

JOHN NGUGI, of Kenya, the five-times world cross country champion and former Olympic 5,000 metres champion, is free to compete again after the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) yesterday lifted their four-year ban on him.

The suspension was imposed 27 months ago after Ngugi refused to take a random dope test in his rural home 125 miles north of Nairobi, saying the IAAF test team had not properly

identified itself and was not accompanied by a Kenyan track official.

Christopher Winner, the IAAF spokesman, said it had decided to lift the ban under its exceptional circumstances rule.

"The council believes he has suffered enough," Winner said. "The lack of information available to Ngugi at the time he refused the test as well as the language problem made it proper and correct to exercise clemency."

Salvation finally beckons for Aberdeen

Aberdeen 3
Dunfermline Athletic 1

BY KEVIN MCCARRA

SALVATION, as any theologian will tell you, can be a lengthy business. On the evidence of recent form, Aberdeen had been expected to confirm their place among the elite of the Scottish League premier division by trouncing Dunfermline Athletic in yesterday's first-leg of the play-off.

Instead, only three minutes remained when they at last established a truly significant advantage for Thursday's return leg at East End Park. As Irvine lifted the ball forward, Shearer was played on-side by a tardy den Bieman and took advantage with an imperious half-volley into the far corner of the net for his second goal of the game.

Until then, the main impres-

sion had been of Aberdeen's extreme difficulty in dealing with an unfamiliar test. This match proved an ambiguous occasion for them. It may have been specifically designed by the authorities to be an ordeal, but few supporters at Pittodrie can have shaken off the feeling that they had come to a summer fair.

Merriment was expected. After all, Roy Aitken's team had rescued themselves from the automatic relegation place with victories over Heart of Midlothian, Dundee United and Falkirk. Such progress made it difficult to dread Dunfermline, who were, after all, mere runners-up in the first division.

An Aberdeen side that had lost its fear, however, was thereby a side diminished. The pounding of their anxious hearts had given them the impetus to stampede forward in recent weeks. Against Dunfermline they again occupied

plenty of territory, but far too often their approach was dutiful rather than enflamed.

Although both teams were weakened by injury, Aberdeen retained the greater strength. Dunfermline recognised the fact and responded in predictable fashion, buttressing their defence by employing Robertson, normally in midfield, as a

European league results and details Page 32

sweeper. The effect, until late in the first half, was to render Aberdeen's greater possession inconsequential.

Before the opening goal, in the 39th minute, Dunfermline, on the break, posed as much of a threat as the home side. Up until half time, no possibility existed of Aberdeen inundating the opposition defence. When they did score, it was

considered technique that forced the breakthrough.

Smith fouled Thomson and, from the right of the penalty area, Glass flighted a dipping free kick to the near post. The ball bounced in front of van de Kamp and left the goalkeeper stranded.

Dunfermline refused to be cowed, however, immediately responding with a long-range attempt that Snelders turned behind with a spray leap. Sturdiness should perhaps have been expected of a visiting side that was unbeaten in its last 15 games. There was, though, still a sense of surprise when, in the 49th minute, Moore took Smith's short corner and curled the ball to the back post for Robertson, a former Aberdeen player, to head home the equaliser.

With that goal, the home side's hope of the uncomplicated mastery that would make the second leg a formality

seemed to recede. They did, all the same, regain the lead seven minutes later. Van de Kamp paved at Glass's fiendish corner, diverting it to McKimmie, who crossed from the left for Shearer to nod into the unattended net. Later, Glass was to beat three men before felling himself by firing ineptly over.

The stage when Dunfermline might have been persuaded of their own inferiority, however, was long since past. Indeed they were angered to be denied a penalty after a stumbling McKimmie appeared to haul down Moore. The negligence of den Bieman, at the very end, though, was to do them even greater harm.

ABERDEEN (4-3-3) I Snelders — S Wright, B Irvine, G Smith, S McKimmie — B Grant, P Hetherington, S Glass — J Miller, D Shearer, S Thomson.
DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC (1-4-3-2): G van de Kamp — G Robertson — I den Bieman, A Todd, N McColl, D Fleming — J McKimmie, P Smith, M McDooloch (sub: A Henderson, Adam) — S Petrie, A Moore (sub: G Shaw, 78).
Referee: L. Mottram.

Waddle among favourites

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

CHRIS WADDLE has emerged as one of the favourites to take over from Trevor Francis as the Sheffield Wednesday manager. Francis, who led the club out for the Cup Final at Wembley two years ago, found himself out of work on Saturday, when he became the thirteenth FA Carling Premiership manager to part company with his club this season.

Waddle, the former England international, who is on the playing staff at Hillsborough, could take over as player-manager, though he was giving little away at the weekend. "I won't comment on my situation," he said. "But it is a sad day when anyone loses their job."

Others mentioned in connection with the vacancy are Dave Bassett, who is in charge of Sheffield United, Ray Harford, the assistant manager of Blackburn Rovers, and Bruce Rioch, who has guided Bolton Wanderers to the Endleigh Insurance League first division play-off final.

Dave Richards, the Wednesday chairman, ended months of speculation about Francis's position by announcing that his contract was being terminated one year early by "mutual agreement". Francis had been with the club since 1990.

"The board would like to place on record its sincere thanks and appreciation of the services provided by Mr Francis in the last four years and wish him every success in the future," Richards said in a statement. "The vacancy for a new manager will be advertised immediately."

Despite finishing thirteenth in the table, Wednesday did not end lingering fears about their safety until the final day of the season with a 4-1 win over Ipswich. Although the season was a big disappointment for the club, Francis still seemed to have the backing of the supporters, who voted two to one in favour of him staying in a local newspaper poll.

However, there had been reports of unrest in the Wednesday dressing-room.

Last week Francis gave an indication of how difficult the past few months had been for him. "It has been the toughest for me in 25 years," he said. "It has been a nightmare." The former England striker joined Wednesday as a player, after 18 months as manager of Queens Park Rangers, and was appointed player-manager following Ron Atkinson's sudden departure to Aston Villa in June 1991.



Francis: hard times

Wrexham bow out of Welsh Cup in triumph

Cardiff City 1
Wrexham 2

BY ALYSON RUDD

EXCLUSIVITY is generally applied in the hope of improving quality and ditching lightweight, but it is unlikely to work out that way in the Welsh Cup.

Wrexham and Cardiff City, the finalists yesterday, have dominated the competition, winning it 45 times between them, but will do so no longer after being excluded from it next season. Uefa, football's European governing body, has ruled that only clubs in the Welsh league pyramid will be allocated a Cup Winners' Cup place. As the odds favour an English Football League side winning the Welsh Cup, the Football Association of Wales has had to ban them from entering it.

So the National Stadium is unlikely to witness again scenes of such intense emotion for a Welsh football final as it did yesterday. Cardiff, newly relegated from the Endleigh Insurance League second division, were given the kind of support usually reserved for teams that have

just won the treble. The players, bidding farewell to the manager, Eddie May, responded with unusual passion. The club will this week be taken over by a consortium headed by Bernard Baker, the former Gillingham chairman.

Cardiff trailed by two goals at half-time and their spirited fightback deserved at least a chance of winning the trophy in extra time. Wrexham took the lead in the nineteenth minute from the penalty spot, after Baddeley tripped Connolly, and, seven minutes later, Bennett, the penalty taker, scored again after linking up with Durkin.

Marriott, in the Wrexham goal, kept out the more perceptive Cardiff strikes until the 78th minute, when Dale headed in Wigg's corner.

There's only one team in Wales, the Cardiff supporters roared. There are more than that but the Welsh Cup will miss the type of drama that these two provided yesterday.

CARDIFF CITY (4-4-2) S Williams — D Smith, I Beardsley, J Perry, D Swales — C Griffiths, N Richardson, N Wigg, P New (sub: C O'Leary, 66min) — A Bird (sub: S Young, 77).
WREXHAM (4-4-2) — A Marriott — D Brace, B Hunter, B Jones, P Harby — K Durkin, G Owen, B Hughes, K Connolly — G Bennett, S Morris (sub: S Williams, 85).
Referee: V. Reed.

Manchester United's turbulent season ends in despair with defeat at Wembley

Everton's Royle revival crowned by Rideout

Everton 1
Manchester United 0

By ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

BENEATH grey skies, Wembley Stadium on Saturday became a study in human nature, a reflection of the winner-takes-all society. Making his way onto the turf, Joe Royle, a manager credited with turning Everton from no-hopers to winners in six months, strode proudly, purposefully. A big-hearted man, he embraced players in red as well as blue shirts — but he did not notice, did not intrude on, the figure seated centre-field, head on knees, a picture of despair and defeat.

Paul Ince, once so authoritative that he was chosen to captain England from midfield, might have been expected to assume the leadership of

Scholes — who are still apprentices.

They had not looked out of place in what was not a particularly gracious 114th FA Cup Final. But youngsters they are, and it was a shame for them that Ince was, as he has appeared since January, a player muzzled, United had no option but to put a stop to his moaning and his belligerence, and with that straitjacket of discipline, he appears to have lost conviction in his play.

Thus it was that in the thirtieth minute Ince lost the ball to that most redoubtable of defenders, Dave Watson. Ince lost the ball, United lost their shape, and the game itself was lost in an instant. United had flooded men into forward positions. They were caught by the Everton counter-attack. From Watson the ball ran to Anders Limpar and he, a Swede displaying considerably more imagination, touch and passing quality than all around him, swept towards the depleted, two-man United defence.

He chose the perfect option, using the overlapping Jackson, an Everton reserve full back, and when Jackson cut deftly across the stranded Pallister, his pass invited Stuart to shoot from eight yards. Amazingly, but characteristically, Stuart struck the underside of the bar; firmly, and again characteristically, Paul Rideout headed the ball into the net, his sixteenth goal of a season in which his effectiveness had been doubted. It was a goal that won the Cup and won Rideout an immediate three-year extension to his contract.

It was the worst of United's defending. Moments earlier Denis Irwin had shown the opposite, moving across to central defence, sensing the lameness of Bruce, snapping down on the ball seconds before Rideout might have scored.

That was rare finesse. Limpar, with left or right boot, showed rarer accomplishments still, and Gigs, when he came on, demonstrated brief, dancing manoeuvrability, using his balance to tease opponents.

The second crux of the afternoon had emanated from him. Gigs had conjured a pass, low on the ground, to provide Scholes with the type



The Everton players enjoy the traditional celebrations of the Cup winners on the Wembley turf after Rideout's goal had accounted for Manchester United

of opportunity that Denis Law, to whom Scholes is sometimes compared, would have swallowed up. But this was youth against experience, Southall, 36, and mistakenly presumed to be an athlete beyond his prime, boldly persuaded the apprentice to try to chip the ball over his head and scrobolically repelled it.

The match was an affirmation of the fact that the British game is long on commitment but short on creativity. Tenacity

is no substitute for technique, tiredness scant excuse for the trough in which English football finds itself. Pace, pace, pace... everything moving faster than imagination.

Yet, as Royle was quick to point out, there had been no malice, no cynicism and no attempt by his supposed underdogs to set out a policy of extreme conservatism. Indeed — Everton won the Cup with a defence that refused to yield and with an attack that

will be better in Europe next season when the surgeon's scalpel has not so recently penetrated the flesh of players such as Duncan Ferguson.

Above all, Saturday, and the last week of the football season, had been a salutary lesson in life and sport. Everton, after two seasons of flitting desperately with relegation, had been lifted by the astonishing faith of 30,000 regular supporters, who, week after week, had tried to

breathe life into the team under Mike Walker, and who then found a common spirit, a catalyst, in Royle, an Evertonian by upbringing who returned to persuade fearful players that they could be winners in the league and the Cup.

United have learnt painfully that arrogance wins no prizes, that aggression has to be channelled within the rules of the game, and that presumption to superiority is the most

fickle of traits. Finally, the two ends of Wembley Stadium demonstrated all. The blue end, around the players' tunnel, echoed loud and long, and sometimes mockingly, the crowd's allegiance to the players cavouring around with the silverware.

The red end had disappeared; United supporters performed the quickest evacuation of a building since the Blitz, and their players, heavy with pain and fatigue, were

left to troop, lonely and defeated, towards the tunnel. A voice suggested that Cantona's kick in January had "cost us everything". At last, Alex Ferguson, the United manager, had admitted the truth.

EVERTON (4-4-2): N. Southall — M. Jackson, D. Watson, D. Liverpool, G. Aitken — A. Limpar (sub: D. Amos), S. Smith, J. Parkinson, S. Brown, A. Hinchcliffe, G. Stuart, P. Redmond (sub: D. Ferguson, sub: M. Hughes). MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-1-1): P. Schmeichel — G. Neville, S. Bruce (sub: R. Gigg), S. G. Platt, D. Worr — N. Butt, R. Keane, P. Jones, L. Sharpe (sub: T. Scholes, sub: A. McClair) — M. Hughes.

Referee: G. Aitken.

Wingers answer prayers

So Neville Southall, the crusty veteran, won the Cup for Everton, did he? No, say others. It was Paul Rideout's headed goal, of course. But hold on a minute, yet other voices cry, stand back and reflect and you will see that Joe Royle did it, transforming the team from deadbeats within six months.

Wrong, on all three counts. The player who opened up a boring final, who demonstrated Manchester United were there to be beaten, who precipitated Rideout's goal, who gave Southall something to cling to and something to protest, was Anders Limpar, a winger as elegant in motion as a springbok and largely disregarded during his time in English football. Ask perceptive Arsenal supporters.

Limpar rescued a dead match, and then, belatedly, was joined by Ryan Giggs, who did more than enough to turn the outcome the other way, but whose colleagues failed him. Limpar and Giggs reminded us of the oldest truth in the game, unchanged over more than a century: that the widest, most exciting spaces are always out on the wing, and that is where defences are the most vulnerable.

It is also true that, for different reasons, neither of these teams deserved to win the trophy. They have been involved in some of the nastiest football seen in a scruffy season, never mind that United's better displays have again at times been pure delight. Everton came onto the Wembley pitch determined to stifle United's technical superiority, and with nine men behind the ball were doing just that. Royle's examination paper would have read (marks out of ten): organisation eight, style three.

Limpar, whose free spirit remains uncrushed, was having none of this. In the first few minutes he had sidestepped Irwin to hit a sharp low shot that had Schmeichel scrambling uncomfortably at the foot of the left post. It was Limpar, with his daring, impatient runs, who provided a springboard from which Everton went one up, and might have gone two, before half-time. When Stuart was set free seven minutes before the break by Limpar, he struck his shot a stride too soon. A goal then and United might have been buried.

Even Limpar's intervention had failed for 45 minutes to prevent the final being an advertisement for the limitations of the English game: tactically negative, short on passing technique, preoccupied with winning possession rather than exploiting it.

In the throes of surrendering the second half of United's potential



David Miller on the telling contribution of Limpar for the victors and the magical moments from Giggs for the vanquished

double within seven days. Alex Ferguson should have been reflecting on the wages of indecision. His team of former fluidity was creaking like a rusty bike. No Cantona, quite properly. No Kanchelskis, because of injury and an internal dispute. And, were the Football Association doing its job properly, there would have been no Keane, after his unpleasant excess in the semi-final. Hughes, initially replaced in January by Cole, then returning in Cantona's absence but unable to relate to Cole, worked beaverishly up from without effect.

Ince harried anyone and anything, yet is a tame sheepdog since his Selhurst Park indiscretion. Sharpe stuttered, having missed a sitter from 14 yards. The United bloom was withered by blackly.

Then along came Giggs, less pacy than Limpar but with twice the subtlety. Within moments of the second half beginning, his rolled cross had Everton in a panic. Suddenly Everton were looking more the team that Mike Walker left behind. Another curling cross from wide on the touchline had Unsworth and Watson shuddering

in central defence. Everton's lead was as secure as a Tory marginal. Had Kanchelskis been available on the right instead of the promising but inexperienced Butt, United probably would now have seen Everton off at the knees. However, McClair, from Giggs's cross, headed against the crossbar, Southall smothered Scholes and then saved, exaggeratedly, from Pallister. It was all over.

Cantona's absurdity has cost United, at a conservative guess, £3 million in lost European revenue, and Ferguson and his chairman should be considering whether they really want this Jekyll and Hyde of a team.

In the end, you felt glad for Everton. They may not be pretty, the school of science may be no more than a memory. Yet any club is always bigger than its present individuals. Everton supporters deserved the success, for their loyalty, and because this is a club with a famous past. If Royle can modify his approach, there may be a bright future. Walker, having obtained Amokachi, had no idea how to use him. If Royle could achieve this, Goodison might recreate the era of Alex Young.



Giggs troubles the Everton defence with his sure touch

Johnson scents glory era ahead

PETER JOHNSON, the Everton chairman, views the Wembley triumph over Manchester United as the stepping stone to another era of Goodison greatness.

Twelve years ago, Adrian Heath provided the launchpad for a struggling Everton with an unexpected equaliser in the Milk Cup at Oxford.

That goal began the transformation of Howard Kendall's Everton from relegation candidates to regular championship and cup contenders. Now it could happen again, with Paul Rideout's Wembley strike proving the catalyst. "I'd like to think this will be the start of another Everton dynasty," Johnson said.

Johnson, ready to put another large chunk of his estimated £150 million fortune into Everton, added: "Whenever good players become available we will be in there competing for them. I will sit down with Joe next week and discover who he wants. But the current team have done us proud. We won the cup fair and square, conceding only one goal to a rather doubtful semi-final penalty.

"When Joe came, he proved himself a shrewd tactician and we showed championship form over the last three-quarters of the season. If we had done that earlier we could have finished in the top five."

Anders Limpar, man of the match for many, joined in the praise of Royle. "When we got knocked out in the Coca-Cola Cup at Portsmouth, everybody was so low," he said. "Then Joe came in and he's meant something extra-special, both for Everton and for me. He's let me perform."

Paul Rideout, the goalscorer, also paid tribute to Royle's inspirational efforts. "Before he came I'd asked for a move and I was looking for another club," the 31-year-old striker said. "But Joe's given belief to everyone in the side. We were playing as individuals rather than as a team until he came."

Southall the unbeatable

In the pub before the game the tally was showing the great goals of Cup Final history, and I observed snuffily that they wouldn't show anything better than Jim Montgomery. For those who don't recall, Montgomery, Sunderland's goalie, made a series of inspired saves in the 1973 Cup Final. His fit of genius allowed Leeds United, who thought they were the best team in history, to be beaten by Sunderland, who knew they weren't even the best team in the second division.

Well, I was wrong, of course, but only in a way. The result of the FA Cup Final on Saturday was, as an upset, not in the same class as '73. But there was a moment of pure goalkeeping that was the equal of anything Montgomery did.

At the end, they told us that Dave Watson, the Everton captain, was man of the match, and there was universal dismay. Surely the choice was between Limpar, who gave the match to Everton, and Neville Southall, who hung onto it. Let us re-run that double-save in slo-mo. Giggs's sweet'n'low cross found Scholes at the far post. And Scholes got it right: a rising shot from very close in that might have taken the goalie's head off.

Great goalkeepers, in this situation, are capable of taking on an aspect of hugeness. The position they adopt makes them twice as big as they actually are. Just as you can block out the sun with your finger-



Simon Barnes applauds the magnificent double-save made by a goalkeeper who blotted out the sun for Manchester United

tip, so a goalkeeper can block out his entire goal.

Southall stood big, the shot came, and, sealing an extra nanosecond by falling away from the ball, slinging up a pair of hands, each one capable of blocking out a galaxy, he parried. That left him on his backside, the ball at Scholes's feet.

Again, Scholes got it right, and lashed the rebound goalwards. Southall, grounded, with hands out of commission, scythed the ball away with his foot. Manchester United's best was not good enough. For them, the double-save introduced the sickener-factor. That decided the match.

Though one must add two almost celebratory interventions. The first was a diving slip-catch from Pallister's header, which Southall saw so early he had the leisure to take in style. The second, right at the end, was a cross met with a leaping one-handed catch, a piece of pure show-boating that rubbed in the truth: Everton had won the Cup.

And so on Saturday night, there was Southall, skiving off the banquet and driving home by himself to Llandudno. Because he is mad,

because he is his own man, because he is a goalie, whatever. "People can think what they like," Southall said. "What annoys them is that I don't have rules." Not a policy about bananas, that. A policy about life.

There is something of the throwback about Southall. He is 36, and looks as if he is paid seven shillings and sixpence a week and trains on fish and chips. Certainly, he looked absurd in that thoroughly-modern goalie outfit they stuck him in.

I looked as if he was sticking an incongruous head over a fairground cut-out. Southall's spiritual garb is a green woolly and a flat tweed cap. And you can't help but feel that if he did was the maximum wage, he'd be training at nine o'clock every morning in the hissing rain.

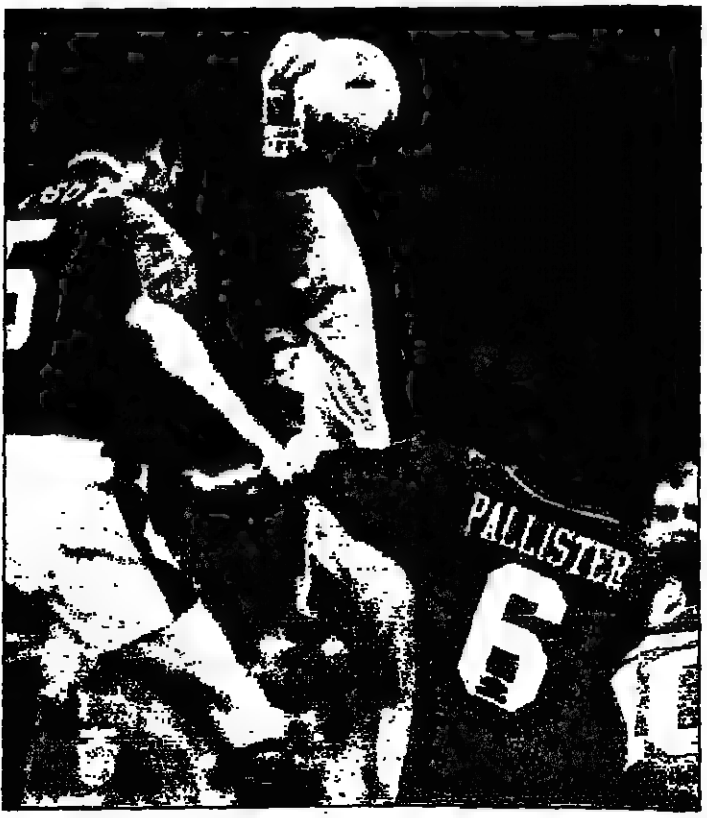
Like all goalkeepers, Southall's reputation for madness is exaggerated; his perfect singularity misunderstood. A goalkeeper is, by definition, a singular man. But when you prick him, he bleeds like the rest.

Southall's performance on Saturday is all the more satisfying because of that. Everton have had a poor season, rescued and finally brought to glory by a touch of fire and inspiration at the end. Southall's season has followed that pattern exactly. Nothing became him in this season like the leaving of it.

Southall's dip in form was sad to see. He has always been one of the good eggs of the game. He is remarkable for two things. One is his incomparable ability to make the snazziest goalie outfit look like something picked up for two quid at a Help the Aged shop. Stark naked, he'd look overdressed and scruffy.

The second thing is his famous sit-down "protest", when, a few seasons back, he came out early after the interval and sat against a post for a bit of a think. This was seen as a protest against his colleagues. It was done, he said, because he "felt his head going", and had to sort it out.

Goalkeepers traditionally have temuous control over that particular chunk of anatomy. They play by different rules to everyone else. Quite literally. On Saturday, Southall, completely barking or mad north-north-west, had a day of singular perfection. Hence the result.



Southall rises above friend and foe for a one-handed catch

track

aper and Cambridge led the women's team against Oxford in the second of three matches. The women's team was led by the captain, who said: "I am one of the worst university athletes. Now it is one's track will make a difference. For people with disabilities, a track like this is a dream. Last winter we ran on grass. A light blue will be to prepare for the against Harvard and on June 28. This will be a match in which Chris Chataway and expected to run. The will be a banquet at which both Joan Viro the president of the Olympic Committee, the president of the Amateur Athletic Union.

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recade. They were to regain the title later. The women's team was led by the captain, who said: "I am one of the worst university athletes. Now it is one's track will make a difference. For people with disabilities, a track like this is a dream. Last winter we ran on grass. A light blue will be to prepare for the against Harvard and on June 28. This will be a match in which Chris Chataway and expected to run. The will be a banquet at which both Joan Viro the president of the Olympic Committee, the president of the Amateur Athletic Union.

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Another batting failure by the captain adds to West Indies' worries

Ambrose unable to recapture aura of menace

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

TAUNTON (final day of three): Somerset drew with the West Indians

WITH a late arrival and an abbreviated run-in to the international programme, there was always scope for early trauma within the West Indies party but they had not bargained for the disintegrating confidence of two of their central characters. At Taunton yesterday, as Richie Richardson and Curtly Ambrose continued to grope blindly for form, there was much to cheer the patriotic Englishman.

Richardson, having promoted himself to open, was out to the fourth ball of the day. Arguably, he was fortunate to have lasted so long. He has now managed five runs from three first-class innings on tour, not the ideal preparation for the first of the three one-day internationals, at Trent Bridge, on Wednesday. Of equal concern to the touring side, however, is the disorientation of Ambrose, presently a sorry imitation of the bowler England have come to fear above all others.

His figures yesterday were nought for 49 from ten overs, respectable only when set against the night for 64 in nine he suffered on Saturday. So far on the tour he has taken one wicket for 206, conceding upwards of six runs an over and bowling 32 no-balls, unprecedented for one whose smoothly looping run has always served him so well.

With each no-ball now worth two runs to the opposition, Ambrose's plight is not only frustrating to him but highly expensive to his team. Potentially, it could cost them a one-day game this week. Andy Roberts, the team coach, does not disguise the anxiety over Ambrose but points out: "If a fast bowler loses his rhythm, as he has done, it doesn't all come back suddenly."

Overstepping is very far from being Ambrose's only problem. He does not swing the ball — although Roberts is trying to educate him — so the essence of his bowling has customarily been to gain extravagant bounce from an indestructible line and length. Inexplicably, his accuracy has deserted him.

Late yesterday, as Somerset's Mark Lathwell repaired

Armed bandits stopped a car driven by Imtiaz-ul-Haq, the Pakistan Test batsman, in the strife-torn city of Karachi but let him go unharmed without taking cash or jewellery when they discovered who he was.

his own shaky start to the season with an exhilarating 76, Ambrose, glowering with bowling rather than hostility, first led him with leg-stump half-volleys and then with short balls outside off stump.

Lathwell fell upon them like a man being offered his first meal in a week, which must approximate to how he felt after scoring 84 runs in six previous first-class innings this season. He is a player of rare gifts but when his minimal footwork lets him down, as it has been doing, his susceptibility is all too plain. This innings may have done his confidence a world of good. Somerset, who badly need the pace of his runs, must hope so.

Lathwell's batting, decorated with back-foot drives, was academic in relation to the game, which had been condemned to a slow and unsatisfactory death once Richardson had delayed his declaration until 40 minutes after lunch, by which time Sherwin Campbell had made a further claim to a Test place with an expansive 80 and Shivnarine Chanderpaul, mature and composed, had reached 50.

Theoretically, Richardson set Somerset to score 325 from 47 overs. In practice, he was settling for a quiet draw and a limited workout for a bowling attack that could not cope with any further mishaps so close to the serious business of the tour.

Kenny Benjamin was unable to take the field, his back having stiffened up after some uncomfortable nights on soft hotel beds. He is not thought to be in serious doubt for Trent Bridge, which also applies to the one bowler in prime form, Courtney Walsh. His four wickets on Saturday were taken between rests for a sore bowling shoulder and yesterday, just to add to his discomfort, he needed treatment to the serious business of the tour.

At least this gave Richardson the opportunity to bowl Keith Arthurton and Carl Hooper, who will share the duties of fifth bowler during the Texaco Trophy series.

It also allowed Keith Parsons, whose defensive play bears an uncanny resemblance to that of the former Somerset captain, Chris Tavaré, to make a pleasing half-century. The locals went home purring. The West Indians' coach headed north-east to Nottingham, carrying some pensive frowns.



Turner won this appeal for a stumping which ended Campbell's innings at 80

Winning streak continues for jolly Lancashire

By MICHAEL HENDERSON

LORDS (Middlesex won toss): Lancashire (4pts) beat Middlesex by eight wickets

TO THEIR overwhelming victory in the championship match, Lancashire added a win of similar ease yesterday. In all they have won ten matches out of eleven in three competitions. The other, against Durham in the Benson and Hedges Cup, was rained off.

They are not unstoppable but they are playing extremely well and look a happy, united team, which is perhaps the root of it. Watkinson, the captain, must take immense credit for that. So too must David Lloyd who is that rare thing in English cricket, the coach who coaches. As yet, though, they have won nothing.

Middlesex never got a proper start. Pooley went in Wasim's first over, caught at slip, and Carr edged Chapple's outswinger to Crawley, who was replacing the injured Hegg behind the stumps. When Gattling, attempting to cut Austin, was also caught behind, Middlesex were forced to rebuild an innings without Ramprakash, who was nursing a hamstring injury.

Chapple, swinging the ball at will, was the most impressive of Lancashire's six bowlers. Yates has played in both games this week and not bowled a ball. He did not have to yesterday as wickets fell at regular intervals. Weekes made the top score, 45, hitting three of the four boundaries in the Middlesex innings. But for a last wicket stand of 31 between Fraser and Johnson, their score would have been even more pitiful.

Lancashire fielded well and held their chalice. The best belonged to Watkinson, to dislodge Nash, and Martin, who judged Partridge's top-edged pull splendidly as long leg. A word too for Crawley who kept wicket creditably.

Afternoon launched the Lancashire reply with four boundaries off Feltham. The third of them, a lofted cover drive, was an extraordinary sight. He fields better than ever and is apparently in the best form of his life. It needed a good ball to dismiss him and Fraser supplied it, one that ripped back and kept a shade low.

His departure enabled Crawley to join Gallian in a partnership worth 122 over the next 22 overs. Gallian was still there at the end, reaching his half century with the winning boundary, a stroke off his legs at Gattling's expense. He had played the anchor role su-



Gallian: the anchorman

premiely well while Crawley played more expansively. He made 75 from 80 balls with 8 fours and a six, swept superbly off Embury over the longer boundary, a carry of a hundred yards. His best stroke, however, was a straight drive off Nash who had anticipated his likely movement, bowled outside the line of leg stump and saw Crawley return the ball, sweet as a nut, past him to the pavilion ropes.

Cl Martin Speight, the Sussex batsman, is still unable to pencil in a date for his first return after missing the start of the season with a mystery virus contraction on a pre-season tour of Spain.

Brown's rise gives Durham grounds for optimism

Gentle boys have always had their role models when it comes to football. From Carter and Milburn to Beardsley and Gascoigne, there has been no shortage of idols to fuel their ambition. It has not been the same with cricket.

Now, however, Durham believe that they have a player whose emergence as a bowler of England potential could inspire the youngsters of the North East to follow his example and complete the making of a first-class county. As the first of "how the lads" rang across their new Riverside Ground at Chester-le-Street on Saturday evening one

suspected that they may be right. Simon Brown, 25, a left-arm fast-medium bowler whose style is not dissimilar to that of John Lever, had just swung the ball in late to bowl a redoubtable opening batsman as Warwickshire's Andy Moles through the gate and claim his 200th wicket for Durham in little over three seasons of first-class cricket.

It came in the middle of an exemplary spell of swing bowling in cool overcast conditions that brought Brown four for 28 in 14 overs and set up the prospect of a gripping finale to Durham's first match at their splendid new headquarters on the

banks of the Wear. Brown, who has now taken nine wickets in the match, has been helped by the irregular bounce of a pitch that was laid only three years ago, although it was nothing like as bad as the one on which Durham beat Warwickshire by two runs in the AXA Equity & Law League yesterday.

Another victory over the champions today would be a significant milestone in Durham's development. It may sound true but it is inescapably true to say that now they have got a ground in keeping with their first-class status, all they have to do is produce a team to match it.

Brown has shown what can be achieved. He had been released after four seasons with Northamptonshire and went back to the North East to qualify as an electrician but Durham's elevation tempted him back into the game and he has been improving ever since.

"Simon is a terrific role model for our lads," Geoff Cook, the Durham director of cricket, said. "He's got credibility amongst his peers and that is a big step towards feeling confident and comfortable and part of English cricket." Which is what everyone at Durham is aiming for.

Pat Gibson on the bowler who has emerged as a role model for aspiring cricketers in the North East

Law League yesterday. Brown took three wickets as Warwickshire struggled in pursuit of a target of 133, but Durham's match-winner was Saxelby, bowling for them for the first time in the competition. He took three crucial wickets and then conceded only four runs off the last over, which started with Warwickshire needing only seven to win.

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Gough able to produce vital ball

By IVO TENNANT

DARREN Gough, as we are reminded week in, week out, has virtues that mark him out for generation. An ebullient personality, an unquenchable spirit, a devastating yorker. One of two of these were to the fore when the AXA Equity & Law League match between Yorkshire and Glamorgan was decided on the very last ball at Headingley yesterday.

Dale, the most useful of all-rounders, needed three runs for Glamorgan to win. His eye was in; he had made 48 from just 39 balls, including four fours and a six pulled high over mid-wicket off the medium pace of White. Indeed, but for an accurate spell from Robinson, who conceded only 19 runs in his eight overs, his side would already have won. Morris and Cottee had both played decent innings.

Gough had had only six runs taken off his final two overs. His last ball, needless to say, was of full length. Dale wound himself up ambitiously, as he had to do, for the field was cannily set. But it was the dreaded yorker. His stumps were shattered and Yorkshire had won. To be able to bowl such a ball at such a stage of a match is quite a gift.

Elsewhere, runs were considerably more in evidence. At Southampton, Cowdrey took an unbeaten 105 off Hampshire's attack from only 62 balls. There were 12 fours and three sixes. His captain, Benson, struck 92. All of this meant that Hampshire, whose captain, Nicholas, was being starting to doubt the wisdom of playing on for a further season or two, needed seven an over to win. They fell well short of their target, as might have been expected given their indifferent form this season.

Tedley Bitter Challenge

Somerset v West Indians

TAUNTON (final day of three): Somerset drew with the West Indians

WEST INDIAN: First innings
C L Hooper c Muthiah b Pearson 178
R L Campbell c Turner b Humphreys 80
R D Richardson c Muthiah b Pearson 4
K L T Arthurton c Turner b Humphreys 34
C L Hooper c Muthiah b Pearson 178
R L Campbell c Turner b Humphreys 80
R D Richardson c Muthiah b Pearson 4
K L T Arthurton c Turner b Humphreys 34

SOMERSET: First innings
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24

WEST INDIAN: Second innings
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
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SOMERSET: Second innings
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WEST INDIAN: Third innings
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WEST INDIAN: Fourth innings
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WEST INDIAN: Fifth innings
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SOMERSET: Fifth innings
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WEST INDIAN: Sixth innings
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SOMERSET: Sixth innings
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WEST INDIAN: Seventh innings
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SOMERSET: Seventh innings
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WEST INDIAN: Eighth innings
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M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24

Yorkshire v Glamorgan

HEADINGLEY (Glamorgan won toss): Yorkshire (4pts) beat Glamorgan by two runs

YORKSHIRE: First innings
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
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GLAMORGAN: First innings
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
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M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
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YORKSHIRE: Second innings
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M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
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GLAMORGAN: Second innings
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YORKSHIRE: Third innings
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GLAMORGAN: Third innings
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YORKSHIRE: Fourth innings
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GLAMORGAN: Fourth innings
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YORKSHIRE: Fifth innings
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GLAMORGAN: Fifth innings
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YORKSHIRE: Sixth innings
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GLAMORGAN: Sixth innings
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GLAMORGAN: Seventh innings
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YORKSHIRE: Eighth innings
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GLAMORGAN: Eighth innings
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M L Lathwell b Walsh 24

Leicestershire v Derbyshire

LEICESTERSHIRE (Derbyshire won toss): Leicestershire (4pts) beat Derbyshire by 22 runs

LEICESTERSHIRE: First innings
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
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M L Lathwell b Walsh 24

DERBYSHIRE: First innings
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LEICESTERSHIRE: Second innings
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
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DERBYSHIRE: Second innings
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LEICESTERSHIRE: Third innings
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DERBYSHIRE: Third innings
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LEICESTERSHIRE: Fourth innings
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DERBYSHIRE: Fourth innings
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LEICESTERSHIRE: Fifth innings
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DERBYSHIRE: Fifth innings
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LEICESTERSHIRE: Sixth innings
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DERBYSHIRE: Sixth innings
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LEICESTERSHIRE: Seventh innings
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DERBYSHIRE: Seventh innings
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LEICESTERSHIRE: Eighth innings
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DERBYSHIRE: Eighth innings
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Northamptonshire v Surrey

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (Surrey won toss): Northamptonshire (4pts) beat Surrey by 14 runs

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First innings
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24

SURREY: First innings
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: Second innings
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
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M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
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M L Lathwell b Walsh 24
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24

SURREY: Second innings
M L Lathwell b Walsh 24

Dooohan's German inx clears track for Beattie

BY A CORRESPONDENT
RYL BEATTIE, of Australia, clinched his second victory of the season yesterday in the main 500cc motorcycle world championship, crashing a white Suzuki, while leading, on a Suzuki, led the ninth lap and finished almost ten seconds ahead of Luca Cadalora, of Italy. The victory extended his lead in the championship to 29 points, with eight to come, he has 94 while his compatriot, has 65.

...to Puig, of Spain, who fifth after a neck-and-neck with Alex Criville, of Spain, is third with 67 points. Beattie took the lead from last week's race, when he held his fourth consecutive position, had a relatively start on his Honda, the champion battled with riders in the early laps, then overtook Beattie on the circuit to take the lead. Beattie, however, never happy with his machine, which wobbled and through corners he nearly lost control, allowed Beattie to take the lead. Dooohan caught a again and overtook in the seventh lap, but up later, when he was pressurised, his fear led away in a bend and he fell. Beattie, however, had a spectacular race at the Nürburgring, having crashed again in a fortnight and was unhappy with the f his tyres on the old

de, whose win... of his car... rear to get... lead, but it... to talk about... miership, I... are not to... away, I had... and concentration... own lap time... ed. A Mick... ly helped me... bump, I feel... but clearly... light goes, it... out there... lora was in... i took, of... the race, but... n on the last... place for the... succession... n his Honda... ult of the seas

Results page 31

WINNERS
1 DOOHAN & HORRELL
1:24.11 (30.2)

2 BEATTIE
1:25.11 (31.2)

3 CRIVILLE
1:26.11 (32.2)

4 CRIVILLE
1:27.11 (33.2)

5 CRIVILLE
1:28.11 (34.2)

6 CRIVILLE
1:29.11 (35.2)

7 CRIVILLE
1:30.11 (36.2)

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3:03.11 (129.2)

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3:04.11 (130.2)

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3:05.11 (131.2)

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Nottinghamshire boasts fine record in promoting local talent to national stage

Boundary markers of sporting excellence



John Goodbody investigates the links between birthplace and achievement in professional sport

England and Wales have proud traditions of producing fine sportsmen — but where is the richest breeding ground to be found? A survey, which has been carried out for *The Times*, reveals that if you want to increase the chances of your son being a professional footballer, then he should be born in South Yorkshire. If you want him to play county cricket, then he should be born in Somerset.

However, if you want to hedge your bets, try to arrange the birth in Nottinghamshire, which has the best average record for producing outstanding players in England's two national team games.

The survey, which relates appearances in first-class cricket and football to county populations, shows that East Anglia lags behind other regions. Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and even Essex are all below the national average in producing talent.

The success rates are radically different for the two games. In cricket, Somerset comes off best with Buckinghamshire third. But both counties are in the bottom five for football. This contrasts with the North of England and North Wales, where the counties that score well at football are generally marked low for cricket. North Yorkshire proving the notable exception.

In football, the criterion for selection is at least one appearance in the Carling Premiership or Endeligh League in season 1993-94, achieved by a total of 2,066 players. The county populations have been taken from the 1971 census.

In cricket, the survey takes in players born since 1950 who have made at least one appearance in the first-class game — a total of 958. The county populations are taken from the 1961 census.

The "per capita rate", listed on the adjoining ranking lists, signifies the number of players born in a county per 100,000 population. The "per capita index" shows how each county compares with the average figure for England and Wales, which is given the value of 100. So the Somerset index of 265 means that Somerset produces first-class cricketers at a rate 2.65 times the national average.

Together with the North-East, which supplies three of the top five placings, Yorkshire has always been a breeding ground of leading footballers. David Seaman, the Arsenal and England goalkeeper, is one example.

Clive Baker, the director of youth coaching at Sheffield Wednesday, recalls when Sunday games were marked by continuous games on waste ground, with players joining and leaving the game at will.

"There always was this tradition and it stemmed from the fact that there was not a lot of money about and not much else to do," he said. "Times have changed but South Yorkshire remains a stronghold of Sunday football. Kids are brought up on football hereabouts. It is a way of life."

"Now we have centres of excellence. At Sheffield Wednesday, we have up to 40 kids, who are specially selected for training twice a week. We also have 'conference' games against youngsters of other local clubs like Sheffield United and Barnsley. There are no trophies and no pressure on the lads. We can field players at will, substitute them and re-substitute them if necessary."

A similar system is practised in Nottinghamshire, where the feats of Forest in winning the Football League championship and European Cup in the late 1970s and the charismatic presence of Brian Clough inspired many youngsters. Andy Cole, for whom Manchester United paid a British record £7 million this year, and Chris Sutton, the £5 million Blackburn Rovers striker, were both born within the county.

Mike Raynor, the Forest youth development officer for the past 12 years, said: "We have a happy spirit here and we do emphasise the educational side. Players have come through the youth policy and there is a real emphasis on producing our own material."

"We have a large community programme and were one of the leaders of 'conference' football. In addition, we have four training sessions a week, with youngsters from the ages of ten to 16 training at the club."

The production of cricketers from Nottinghamshire is also not surprising, given that England's famous fast-bowling partners, Harold Larwood and Bill Voce, were both born in the county. Bruce French, the wicketkeeper, was the last Nottinghamshire-born player to be recognised by England at Test level while three of the current county squad — Andrew Pick, Paul Pollard and Robert Chapman — are locally born. David Millns, who plays for Leicestershire, and Kevin Cooper, now with Gloucestershire, also hail from Nottinghamshire.

Bob Millar, the assistant director of leisure services for Nottingham County Council, said: "There is a good development programme for cricket, which has been copied by other counties. Members of the county team go into the schools during the winter. We also have a cricket festival and mini-cricket festival for youngsters during the summer."

"The county team also had two outstanding role models during the 1980s, Richard Hadlee and Clive Rice, just as it was beginning this initiative. This is now bringing results with youngsters coming into the county side."

Miller pointed out that Nottinghamshire was not just renowned for the two national team games. "We have over 80 people who have represented Britain at senior or junior level in other sports, including the rowers and canoeists, who train at Holme Pierperrot, and the international swimmers at Nova Centurion."

Somerset's flow of professional cricketers — Richard Hadlee, Harvey Truitt, Jeremy Hallett, Keith Parsons and Matthew Dimond of the current squad were born in the county — may be partly due to youngsters having role models, such as Ian Botham, Vivian Richards and Joel Garner, during the late 1970s and early 1980s. "Although none was born in the county, they were an inspiration for youngsters growing up at the time," Julian Wyatt, the county's youth development officer, said. "We also have a large number of public schools in the area, who play cricket to a high standard, such as Millfield, King's College and Queen's College, Taunton."

and Taunton School. The state schools are also improving and we have primary schools competitions with both hard and soft balls. Because we are a small county, the players and the club are very accessible to the public. Not having a top-class football club in the county means that cricket and rugby are the main interests for youngsters."

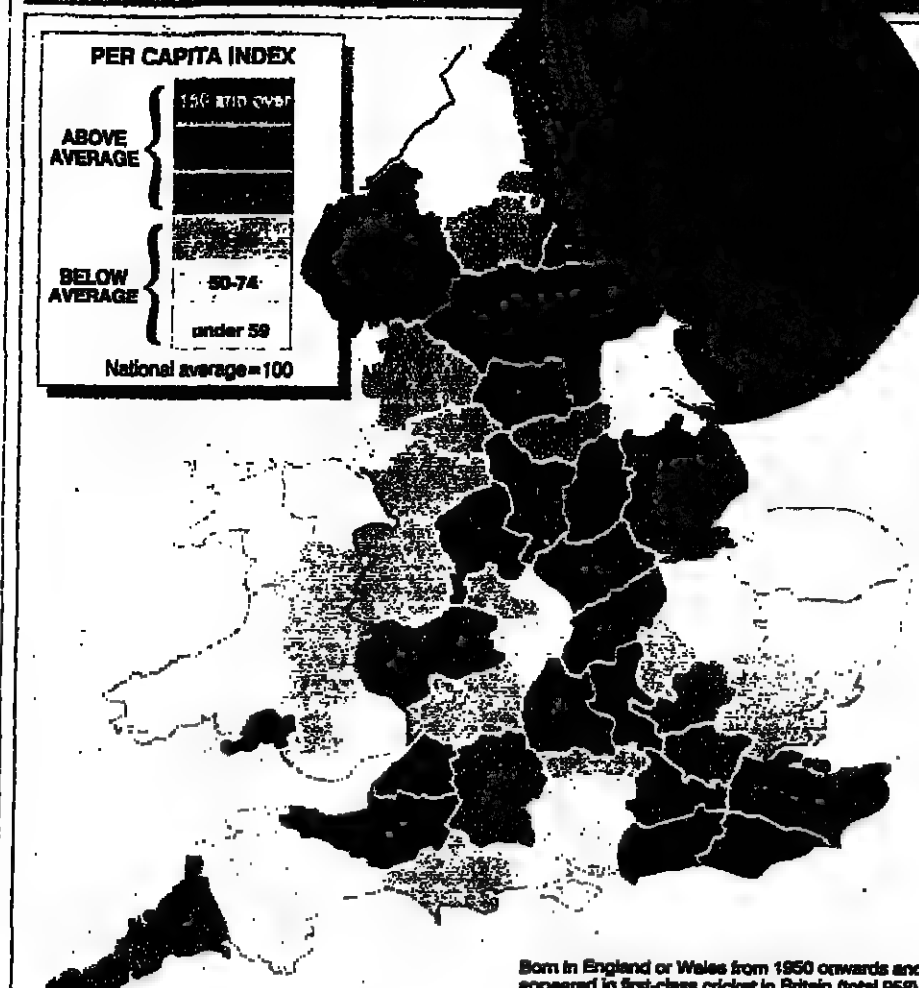
West Glamorgan places highly in both cricket and football. Graham Davies, the national services director at the Sports Council of Wales, said: "The South Wales junior cricket league boasts it is the biggest in the country and there is a tremendous following for Glamorgan, even if much of it is an inert following."

In football, Swansea, the biggest city in the county, has produced footballers of the calibre of the Allchurch and Charles brothers and Cliff Jones. Dean Saunders is an outstanding example among contemporary players.

East Anglia must look with envy to the rest of the country, although as Dr Anita White, the acting director of national services at the Sports Council, points out: "Rural communities, with the villages spread out, are difficult areas to carry out sports development work."

Transport is more difficult and, although Norwich and Ipswich have been leading football clubs, there is no first-class cricket in Cambridgeshire, Norfolk or Suffolk. People do identify with local success."

BIRTHPLACE OF CRICKETERS



Rank	County of birth	Players	Per capita rate	Per capita index	Rank	County of birth	Players	Per capita rate	Per capita index
1	Somerset	39	5.59	265	28	Mid Glamorgan	10	1.33	66
2	West Glamorgan	17	4.64	229	29	Cheshire	10	1.32	65
3	Buckinghamshire	15	3.59	181	30	Gloucestershire	8	1.28	64
4	Nottinghamshire	32	3.55	171	31	Tyne and Wear	23	1.25	63
5	Avon	29	3.20	168	32	Essex	18	1.22	62
6	West Sussex	16	3.25	166	33	West Midlands	47	1.22	61
7	North Yorkshire	18	3.13	161	34	South Yorkshire	22	1.18	61
8	East Sussex	16	3.07	148	35	Shropshire	5	1.68	81
9	Northamptonshire	12	3.01	145	36	Leicestershire	22	1.22	62
10	Gloucestershire	12	2.98	143	37	Derby	5	1.60	77
11	Warwickshire	26	2.94	138	38	Northamptonshire	12	1.58	76
12	Kent	33	2.75	133	39	Bedfordshire	5	1.57	75
13	South Yorkshire	22	2.74	127	40	Worcestershire	12	1.54	74
14	Staffordshire	22	2.59	125	41	Devon	11	1.34	64
15	Gloucestershire	20	2.58	123	42	Wiltshire	3	1.98	85
16	Hertfordshire	20	2.54	122	43	Worcestershire	12	1.54	74
17	Worcestershire	10	2.38	114	44	Gloucestershire	12	1.54	74
18	Cornwall	5	2.33	112	45	Isle of Wight	1	1.04	60
19	Cheshire	12	2.28	110	46	Wiltshire	3	1.98	85
20	London	192	2.26	110	47	Cumbria	2	0.94	49
21	Derbyshire	12	2.24	108	48	Manchester	18	0.93	48
22	Hampshire	11	2.24	108	49	Cambridgeshire	4	0.92	44
23	Hampshire	10	2.19	105	50	Northamptonshire	12	1.54	74
24	Cumbria	10	2.15	102	51	Northamptonshire	12	1.54	74
25	Devon	12	2.15	102	52	Northamptonshire	12	1.54	74
26	Devon	12	2.15	102	53	Suffolk	3	0.64	31
27	Devon	12	2.15	102	54	Devon	12	1.54	74
28	Devon	12	2.15	102	55	Devon	12	1.54	74

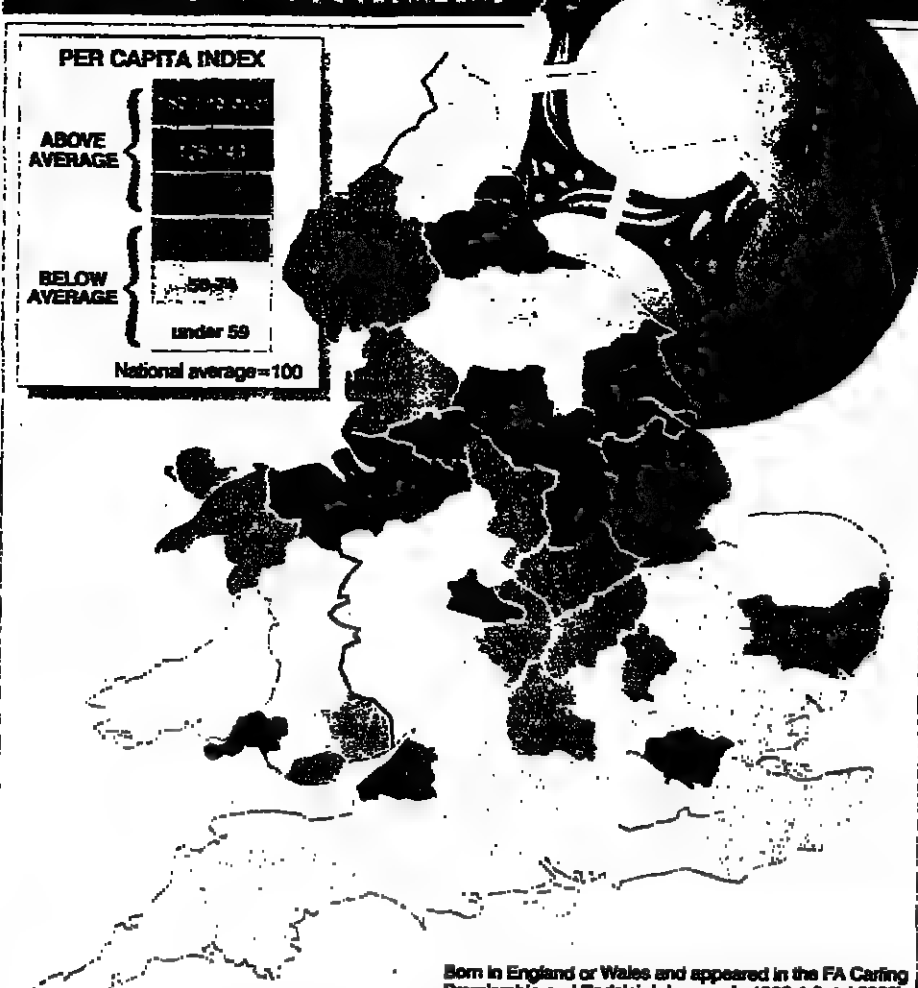
CRITERIA: Because there are more professional footballers than cricketers, criteria for inclusion in the two surveys were different. Had only one season been used for cricket, too few players would have been included for significant county rates to be calculated. The per capita rate and per capita index allow for the different county populations.

PER CAPITA RATE: signifies the number of players born in a county per 100,000 population taken from the 1961 census (1971 in the case of footballers).

PER CAPITA INDEX: measures how each county compares with the average figure for England and Wales, which is given the value of 100. For example, the per capita index of 265 for Somerset in the cricketers table means that Somerset produces first-class players at a rate 2.65 times the national average. Lancashire's index of 60 means that it is 60 per cent below the national average.

DATA: RICHARD POLLARD

BIRTHPLACE OF FOOTBALLERS



Rank	County of birth	Players	Per capita rate	Per capita index	Rank	County of birth	Players	Per capita rate	Per capita index
1	South Yorkshire	129	0.50	219	28	Stafford	17	3.18	75
2	Cleveland	82	0.76	216	29	Hertfordshire	29	3.14	74
3	Nottinghamshire	142	0.57	205	30	Devon	29	3.12	74
4	Derbyshire	49	0.57	190	31	Hampshire	42	3.06	72
5	Tyne and Wear	88	0.56	189	32	Westward & Waverham	18	3.03	71
6	Nottinghamshire	64	0.57	185	33	North Yorkshire	18	3.03	71
7	West Glamorgan	22	0.58	188	34	Shropshire	19	3.01	71
8	Chryd	20	0.58	188	35	Shropshire	19	3.01	71
9	West Midlands	79	0.58	188	36	Stafford	17	3.18	75
10	Greater Manchester	148	0.62	197	37	Northumberland	40	2.98	70
11	Shropshire	48	0.68	220	38	Wiltshire	18	2.97	69
12	Cheshire	41	0.73	220	39	Mid Glamorgan	18	2.97	69
13	London	482	0.72	212	40	Cambridgeshire	14	2.93	68
14	Hampshire	59	0.65	211	41	Kent	18	2.87	68
15	West Yorkshire	88	0.68	210	42	Devon	29	3.12	74
16	Cornwall	5	0.68	210	43	East Sussex	14	2.78	61
17	Gloucestershire	61	0.78	228	44	Shropshire	19	3.01	71
18	South Glamorgan	14	0.58	188	45	Stafford	17	3.18	75
19	Gloucestershire	12	0.58	188	46	Stafford	17	3.18	75
20	Derbyshire	41	0.73	220	47	Stafford	17	3.18	75
21	Derbyshire	41	0.73	220	48	Stafford	17	3.18	75
22	Northamptonshire	18	0.61	211	49	Stafford	17	3.18	75
23	Staffordshire	37	0.61	211	50	Stafford	17	3.18	75
24	Cumbria	18	0.58	188	51	Stafford	17	3.18	75
25	Staffordshire	18	0.58	188	52	Stafford	17	3.18	75
26	Leicestershire	22	0.58	188	53	Stafford	17	3.18	75
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DATA: RICHARD POLLARD



French and Trump, wicketkeeper and bowler, who play for the counties in which they were born



Seaman and Cole, goalkeeper and striker, from areas renowned for producing leading sportsmen

Fighting for a view dilutes 'feel-good' factor

Oliver Holt joins the crowds intent on seeing the world's leading woman player in action

It was a day when everything seemed rosy in the Garden of England. Even the drive to Chart Hills golf club was a joy. Not much traffic on the M25, a minor miracle in itself, and then a short hop across Kent in the crisp of early morning, through the picturesque villages of Goudhurst and Biddenden to the site of the women's Ford Classic.

Journalism over, there followed an event of more wonderment, an encounter with that rare species, the good-humoured, happy car park attendant. Not just one either, but several of the chief parker's colleagues, generous with their directions and their bonhomie. Perhaps they are indigenous to Kent.

It was a short walk to the club and there was no queue to get in. Once through the main gates, the first sight was of a long line of golfers hitting mighty shots in my direction, swinging relentlessly, trying to get the shanks, the hooks and the slices out of the system and appearing to be succeeding.

This was a new experience for me, the first golf tournament. Like going to Wimbledon for the first time and being

struck by the fact that it was essentially just like all the small junior tennis tournaments I had played in, that it was a competition not just a spectacle, so this, too, was a thrill.

Watching golf on television is a piecemeal, disjointed affair, lifting from hole to hole, pairing to pairing, never really being allowed to fix on one player's progress and lose yourself in the drama of their personal struggle. At Chart Hills on Saturday, particularly before Laura Davies teed off in mid-morning, it was different.

Armed with a bread roll groaning with grilled bacon that kept me occupied until the second green, I set off with the day's first pairing, Fiona Pike and Gillian Stewart, who had barely made the cut the night

before. They both hit perfect drives off the 1st tee, prompting gasps of awe from the small crowd. It suggested some were new, if willing, converts to women's golf.

The both made birdies on the 1st and when Stewart hit her approach shot to the 2nd into a deep, lovingly raked bunker, I already felt loyal enough to be disappointed for her. When she chipped out in a fall of sand, straight into the hole with one bounce, those of us who had not crept back to the 1st to await the arrival of Davies felt like lucky mascots.

In the end I succumbed, too, and abandoned them for a sighting of the woman who is acknowledged as the leading female player in the world. It was the most exercise I have had since I ran for the No 6 bus in London some time in January, something else that contributed to the "feel-good" factor still welling up inside me.

The only downside, really, was that the course mirrored the characteristics of its designer, Nick Faldo. It tried hard with untidy woods here and there and the odd half-hearted lake but it was syn-

thetic rather than naturally beautiful. Davies was still hitting balls with all her might on the practice ground where a sizeable crowd had gathered. By the time she made it to the 1st tee, there were hundreds of eager spectators armed with deckchairs and umbrellas, grouped around it, ready to follow her around the course.

Somehow it didn't seem quite as much fun as watching Pike and Stewart, not as exclusive. It was uplifting to watch Davies blast her way round the course, hitting drives that made the others look like novices, bringing herself within sight of a course record 64, but the experience was diluted by fighting for a good view.

She blew it on the 16th with two wayward putts and flung her visor across the green before drop-kicking her ball into a pond. That put the icing on the cake. For the hackers who spend their rounds cursing and bemoaning their lack of talent, it was nice to see at first hand that even the best can be made to suffer.

Report, page 24

Needy England fight back

By RICHARD EATON

ENGLAND'S thrilling comeback from the edge of defeat and the verge of relegation produced a loud call for more money from the manager, Clive Woodward, a nerve-racking revenge for Darren Hall and a triumphant return for Gillian Gowers, who helped to complete the 3-2 win over Thailand at the world badminton championships in Lausanne late on Saturday night.

The recovery from 2-0 down ensured England will be in the top group of the Sudirman Cup team event when the next world championships are held in Glasgow in 1997 and also provided a platform for Clive Woodward to make a perennial plea for better funding.

"If we had half the money of the leading countries we would do very well," Clive Woodward said. "This was a brave performance, and I was proud of the way we fought back."

"Some of our players have received plenty of criticism over the past couple of years and this proves we are still good enough to compete at a high level." England's chances of staying among the elite

looked to have disappeared when the European men's doubles champions, Chris Hunt and Simon Archer, were beaten in three games by the world eighth-ranked pair of Thongtong and Teerawattana to give the Asians a 2-0 lead.

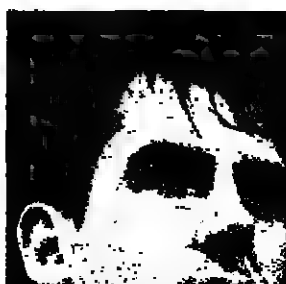
The fightback was begun by Julie Bradbury and Joanne Wright, whose win over Piangvech and Boonyarat increased their belief that they can win a women's doubles medal in individual events.

In football, Swansea, the biggest city in the county, has produced footballers of the calibre of the Allchurch and Charles brothers and Cliff Jones. Dean Saunders is an outstanding example among contemporary players.

East Anglia must look with envy to the rest of the country, although as Dr Anita White, the acting director of national services at the Sports Council, points out: "Rural communities, with the villages spread out, are difficult areas to carry out sports development work."

Transport is more difficult and, although Norwich and Ipswich have been leading football clubs, there is no first-class cricket in Cambridgeshire, Norfolk or Suffolk. People do identify with local success."

Results, page 30



Hall: beat Kukasemkij

John Goodbody submits to judo, one of the sports at which Britons excel and a true test of mind and body

Throw yourself into a new way of life

Judo is not just Britain's most successful sport over the past six Olympic Games. The fighters jostling for supremacy at the European Championships (which ended in Birmingham last week) were just the elite, accustomed to hours of practice, lifting weights and running up and down hills carrying logs on their backs. Beneath them, sometimes literally, during training, are thousands of other people for whom the Japanese martial art is an engrossing contrast to the pressure of their work and studies. For children, too, it is ideal as a method of physical education, formalising the rough-and-tumble of play. Many people become so enamoured with the activity that they develop an interest in the Japanese language and culture and visit the country where, in the late 19th century, Dr Jigoro Kano developed

SPORT FOR ALL

judo from the ancient self-defence styles of jujitsu.

The typically British judo product is Terence Donovan, the fashion photographer. "If I am away on location abroad for longer than a week, I get edgy," he says. "I need to have a pull-around."

"In judo, there is no shield. There is immediate physical contact. You learn about yourself when you are faced by an enormous bloke with every other tooth missing, salivating at the thought of pushing you through the mat."

However, sessions, particularly those involving children, are carefully controlled. There is none of the spontaneous violence and unpleasant fouling which mars so many sports, simply because the aggression in judo is channelled into the activity. The fighters also practise with partners of a suitable size — there are seven weight categories for men and women — and ability. Men and women sometimes practise together in clubs but seldom in elite training sessions.

Judo benefits from a special grading system. The kit, which is like a loose-fitting suit without buttons or zips, is fastened by a belt, the colour of which denotes the holder's expertise. There are the *kyu* (or pupil) grades — white, yellow, orange, green, blue and brown — and the *dan* (degree) grades, beginning with a first dan black belt. Improvement is judged at gradings, when fighting ability and technical knowledge are assessed. Contests are won outright by throwing an opponent cleanly on his back, holding him immobile or forcing him to submit to armlock or strangle hold. Armlocks and strangles are banned in competition for anyone below the age of 16 and everyone is taught to fall safely.

The Japanese had always propagated the theory that size was immaterial to the sport.



"In judo, there is immediate physical contact. You learn about yourself." A British fighter and his Italian opponent get to grips in an under-18 schools international at Crystal Palace Sports Centre



Black belt Terence Donovan throws John Goodbody

But a Dutchman, Anton Geesink, destroyed that engaging idea, which lured thousands of small men eager to take revenge on bullies. Geesink was not only big — 6ft 6in and 20 stone — but extremely skilful. In the most celebrated moment in the sport, the 1964 Olympic final in Tokyo, he held down the 16 stone all-Japan champion Akio Kaminaga while his teammates openly cried on the edge of the mat.

Muscle bulk does help in open combat, but Donovan practised for years with Neil

Adams, the British team manager and former world lightweight champion, who was almost half his size. "I never moved him," Donovan says. "The principle of judo is simple. If A and B are pushing towards each other then A reverses and so adds B's strength to his own because he is moving two forces in the same direction. Instead of resisting, he harnesses his opponent's strength."

"This does not mean that judo is not physically demanding. Donovan terms it 'ferociously energetic. For the first

six months of training the only thing I could move when I woke up was my eyelids." Fighters spend hours building up strength, stamina, subtlety and skills: rehearsing throws and then trying to carry them out in combat situations. They learn to block and counter throws, skate from holds and strangles.

Judo is, of course, an excellent method of self-defence. Donovan was once attacked, in Rome, by a group of muggers. He subdued them — and people in a bus queue nearby applauded. Many people are also attracted by the Japanese tradition of developing mental as well as physical excellence. A prime example is Trevor Leggett, a venerated eighth dan who writes and speaks Japanese fluently. He is president of the Budokwai in south Kensington, London, where Donovan trains. Leggett has always tried to encourage his pupils to acquire an understanding of Japanese culture and history. After all, the techniques and instructions are in Japanese, so an ambience is created to encourage links with the Orient. So is respect between opponents, who bow to each other ceremoniously before and after contests.

"Parents like judo because of the discipline it brings to their children," Donovan says. For many youngsters, the sport will lead them to a lifetime of physical and mental exploration.



Self-defence as fun

JUDO is a cheap sport to pursue, but it is important to join a club that is a member of the British Judo Association (BJA). This helps to ensure that the instruction you receive is to the correct standard.

Write to the BJA, 7a Rutland St, Leicester, LE1 1RB (telephone 0116-255 9669 or fax 0116-255 9660) for a list of the clubs in your area. Many have special tuition for beginners and children.

FACT BOX

□ The Budokwai, 4 Giltspur Rd, South Kensington, London SW70 (telephone 0171-770 1000 or 2058) is the oldest and the best-known club in Europe, the producer of many internationals.

It charges an annual membership fee of £45 for seniors and £35 for juniors with seniors paying a further £3 for each visit and juniors £2.

Smaller clubs often charge less.

□ To compete in either a championship or a grading, the fighter needs a BJA licence, which costs £18.50 for a senior and £11 for a junior.

□ The only other outlay is for a suit (a judogi) which can often be obtained second-hand. The cost of the suit begins at £10 for a child's size and £30 for an adult's.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Bridge lost one of its greatest players when Giorgio Belladonna died ten days ago. His record in top-level tournament play was unsurpassed, with three wins in the World Olympiad Teams and no fewer than thirteen in the Bermuda Bowl between 1957 and 1975. He was the only player to have participated in all sixteen Italian world victories.

This deal occurred towards the end of the final of the 1975 Bermuda Bowl (Italy against North America):

Dealer East	North-South game	Teams
♠ 7852	♠ A J 9 8 6	443
♥ K A 3 2	♥ K 8 2	♥ Q 10 8 7
♦ J 5 3	♦ A Q	♦ Q 10 6 4
♣ K 10	♣ A K 10 9	♣ 7 6 4
	♠ A 9 7	
	♠ J 8 5 3 2	

Contract: Seven Clubs. Lead: the two of spades

Belladonna (South) and his partner, Benito Garozzo, reached the clearly unsound grand slam in clubs after eight rounds of bidding. You must, however, bear the tactical situation in mind. Italy had, at the half-way stage, trailed by no fewer than 77 IMPs and had staged a magnificent recovery to near equality.

According to contemporary reports, Belladonna's normally impassive face was a mixture of despair and anguish as he viewed dummy. With the fortunate lie of the trumps, however, all thirteen tricks were made and Italy went on to win the match. At the other table the contract had been Six No-Trumps — again not the

best spot, but safe enough as the cards lay.

In fact there had been scope for the defenders against the grand slam. Suppose Eddie Kantar, as West, had followed to the first trump lead with the king? (He actually played the ten.) Would declarer have placed East with 10 7 6 4, and tried to pick up the ten with a trump reduction play? Giorgio was asked afterwards what would have happened. His reply was: "The North Americans would be world champions today."

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Genius defeated

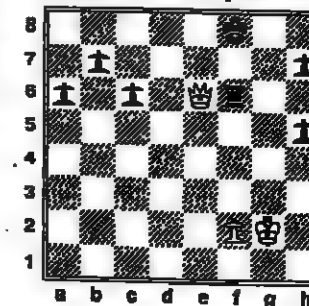
In the much heralded showdown between Garry Kasparov and the Pentium Genius in Cologne at the weekend, the world champion defeated the silicon brain by one win and one draw in a two game match. The Pentium Genius, programmed by Richard Lang, the British computer expert, had sensationally defeated Kasparov by the same score in a tournament in London last year. The computer is able to analyse over 6 million positions per minute.

Kasparov's win in the first game came about as a result of his ability to exploit the computer's greed for material. Richard Lang claimed that his program could have won the game and indeed on move 23 the computer could have played 23... Qb3 while on move 25 its desire to snatch pawns led it into difficulties when 25... Qa2 would have preserved its advantage. Thereafter, although the computer was several pawns ahead Kasparov's grip on the position proved to be decisive. White: Garry Kasparov. Black: Intel Pentium. Cologne, May 1995

Slav Defence

1 c4	c5
2 d4	c5
3 Nc3	Nf6
4 e5	g6
5 Bf4	Bg7
6 Bg5	0-0

Diagram of final position



□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

FLABELLATION
a. Middle-aged spread
b. Rumour
c. Fanning
VERMIAN
a. Worm-like
b. A purple cuttlefish pigment
c. Corrupt

GLABROUS
a. Hairless
b. Flattering
c. Fat
QUEER PLUNGER
a. A gay bird
b. A confidence trickster
c. A synchronised swimmer

Answers on page 40

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Smyslov - Botvinnik, Leningrad 1941. Black could content himself with capturing the white rook on e3 with his knight but he actually has a much stronger continuation. Can you see it?

Solution, page 40

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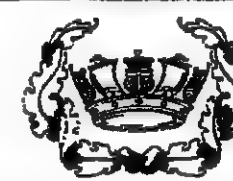
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EDUCATION

Few pupils in British schools learn to speak a foreign language competently. John Bald looks at the reasons for this failure

Let's talk to the world

Five schools are expected to be named next month as England's first specialist language colleges, as the Government attempts to tackle the nation's shortcomings in mastering other tongues. An Ofsted report published this month shows just how far there is to go.

The report is, surprisingly enough, the first comprehensive review of inspection evidence on modern languages ever published. Inspectors have given their views on good practice, and there have been paragraphs in general surveys, but this is the first time that all the available evidence has been subject to detailed public analysis. The report is based on 735 independent inspections monitored by Her Majesty's Inspectors, and on a further 60 carried out by HMI itself. It paints a sad picture. Despite all the efforts that have been made in the past 20 years to make modern languages accessible to all pupils, pupils' response in the early stages remained "markedly better" in upper ability than in lower, middle and mixed ability groups, and there was a general falling-off of standards in the third year.

Pupils' responses to modern languages were markedly better in the upper ability range

Thereafter, matters deteriorated. A third of lessons with less able pupils were unsatisfactory, and achievement generally, in speaking just as much as in reading and writing, was hampered by lack of the grammatical understanding required to construct more than a minimal response to a question. The enthusiasm shown in beginners' classes was less frequently, there was "insufficient progression" from the earlier years of secondary school, and often "pupils were not making significant progress in using language skills". By the time they reached the sixth form,

while the most able pupils were able to construct an argument effectively and to produce an "impressive" standard of writing, others had serious problems in adjusting to A-level demands.

The situation, like that obtaining in basic literacy, is rooted in the long-standing strategic error in dealing with underachievement which has now been recognised by the Labour leadership as well as the Government. In the early 1970s, when *The Times Educational Supplement* compared the failure rate in modern languages with the casualty lists at Passchendaele, the pupils who failed were often those who had not established competence in basic reading

and writing, and who were then not able to use these skills effectively in learning, practising and retaining a second language. The emphasis on accuracy in foreign languages for pupils who had not developed it in English appeared to put achievement beyond the reach of most, and, as in the most radical English teaching, it was the emphasis on achievement itself that was seen to be the root of the problem. It was inherently divisive, and the solution was to emphasise involvement instead of achievement.

Unfortunately, this "involvement of the many" was not matched by the identification of any realistic pattern of achievement for them, without which the most imaginative approach to a language cannot sustain interest. Thus Ofsted found a distinct drop in standards, interest and involvement in the third year of secondary school, after which standards reached their nadir, with over a quarter of lessons unsatisfactory.

In the sixth form, the proportion of satisfactory work recovered to 89 per cent, but the number of pupils plummeted. In 1994, there were 394,000 candidates for all languages at GCSE, and just 18,000 at A level, of whom little more than a quarter were boys. At this stage, the established pattern of successful teaching of successful pupils is largely unchanged — there are just very few successful pupils.

However, in foreign languages as in literacy, there has never been a golden age, and many of the pupils who failed in the past were not competing on equal terms. They rarely enjoyed the contacts with native speakers, and could not sustain their interest by experience of foreign countries as a source of social and intellectual pleasure. The new regime has, however, added to the inequality, too often creating or tolerating a *Grange Hill* atmosphere in which hard-working pupils suffer taunts of "boffin" or worse, and in which educational visits are more likely to focus on hypermarkets and theme parks than on conversation.



SCOTTISH SCHOOL WINS AWARD FOR INNOVATIVE APPROACH

GEORGE TURNBULL

Trinity Academy, Edinburgh, gives its pupils, and those from its foreign exchange schools, the chance of work experience elsewhere in Europe

A RECENT LinguaTel survey revealed that 74 per cent of calls in French, German or Italian to the switchboards of Britain's top 100 exporting companies were abandoned, resulting in lost sales. One Scottish school is doing its best to make sure that its pupils, at least, will be language-literate.

Most schools have foreign exchanges. Trinity Academy, Edinburgh, has gone several steps further: it offers its students — and those from exchange schools in France, Holland, Denmark and Sweden — foreign work experience, with the aim of turning them all into participating Europeans.

Alexa Brain, the academy's European co-ordinator, spends much of her time matching the students' career interests with work experience. One Scottish student, for example, spent time at a hospital in Holland. "Today I watched three operations," her report reads, and it goes on to describe them. After the third (rather gory) operation, the sight of blood no longer worried her. Now she is studying medicine at Aberdeen University. Other Scottish students have played professional football in Denmark, and worked in newspapers, radio stations and local government. In return, a Dutch student was found a place with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, and other placements for foreign students have been made in engineering and commerce, the police, air traffic control, a veterinary practice, a distillery, a shortbread factory, the botanical gardens and a hospital.

"The European Community is not for the exclusive use of the academically gifted," says Peter Galloway, the school's headmaster. "Our programme allows all of our students to experience different trades and professions so that they will gain confidence sufficiently to work and live there as Europeans, which is what they are. For too long the chattering classes have hijacked the debate. Europe is now a reality and we must grasp the opportunity to be part of it."

Dutch, Swedish and Danish are not formally taught in the academy, although French is. But special classes are provided to equip the students with conversational and survival skills, so they can quickly learn how to communicate. Joint educational projects are also encouraged before the exchanges take place. Working on a common theme, the students study the effects of waste disposal, pollution or how local government works in their own countries, and are able to compare authoritative notes when they finally meet.

From modest beginnings in 1991 the programme has expanded beyond recognition, and won the school a £1,000 Department of Trade and Industry prize last month. "Communicating across cultural barriers," said Sir Peter Parker, who presented the award, "means entering the mindset, and even the heart, of other peoples — understanding what makes them tick."

The five primary feeder schools to Trinity Academy are now beginning a project that links them to Europe and the school: they are following the lives of a fictitious Italian family moving into the area.

GEORGE TURNBULL

needs to be made of video and computers, assessment needs to be tightened up, so that there is less emphasis on pupils' attitudes and effort and more on their actual standards of attainment, and there is a need for greater consistency in teaching methods, particularly in the GCSE years. There is, however, room for doubt as to whether this will be enough. The implicit rejection of mixed-ability teaching is significant, but the report leaves a great deal riding on the new national curriculum, when it remains to be seen whether its model provides a realistic framework for progression over a five-year course. The revised wording will not greatly disturb those who still preach involvement at the expense of achievement, and it gives no encouragement to teachers who believe it is at times valuable to use English to explain more difficult aspects of the language.

At the very least, detailed research is needed to measure the actual progress of pupils of differing abilities over three and five years, and to analyse sixth-form teaching, in which the first two terms have often become a compressed old-style O-level course. Ofsted, however, detects a consistently positive influence from it, and it is, for the next five years, the best curriculum we have. We can only hope that the continued emphasis from Ofsted on what pupils can do will encourage a more realistic approach and enable us, in modern languages as in literacy, to begin the long haul back.

How to choose an MBA

These days students must pick a course with care, says George Wright



MBA students at Kingston University, one of the 19 business schools rated as "excellent"

Ten years ago, there were 25 MBA courses to choose from in Britain. Today there are more than 90. The number of continental business schools has also risen sharply: in the mid-1980s there were 25, compared with more than 300 today. In America, 275,000 students are enrolled on MBA courses and 75,000 graduated last year.

Twenty years ago, an MBA guaranteed a good job in the US, most likely in consultancy or finance. Nowadays, it is not so clear cut. The question employers ask is no longer "Do you have an MBA?" but "Where did you get it?"

The growth of part-time MBAs in Britain means that the employed manager can choose an evening course near by, rather than taking one by distance learning. But the nearby courses may be located at low-prestige institutions, making one of the 17 distance-learning programmes on offer in the UK a sensible choice.

Some MBAs are taught entirely at a distance: students never meet colleagues or visit their campus. But others involve compulsory weekend school or intensive seminars. Six of the 17 programmes accredited by the Association of MBAs (AMBA) — those at Durham, Henley, Kingston, Strathclyde, Warwick and the Open University — involve face-to-face contact between tutors and students. The personal contact probably is worth the hassle.

How then should the prospective student choose a course? The AMBA's stamp of approval would seem a logical first step. Experts will have visited the institution and satisfied themselves that the programme's contents and teachers are sound.

Another indication is whether the school produces first-rate teaching and research. In 1992, the higher education funding councils assessed the quality of business school

research, and only six achieved the top grade: Bradford, Lancaster, London, UMIST, Strathclyde and Warwick. Since then, 19 schools have been rated as "excellent" for teaching.

The extent to which a business school teaches "executive programmes" to senior managers can be revealing, because these courses demonstrate that practising executives find what the school is teaching is useful. If the school teaches only undergraduates and MBAs, it is probable that people who know little about business are teaching students who also know little about business. Neither will recognise the deficiency.

Another criterion is the length of time the institution has provided MBA education. Although the qualification has been in Britain for 30 years, some institutions have only begun to offer the MBA recently. One reason for doing so has been to generate revenue: MBA tuition fees range from about £4,000 to almost £20,000.

Some institutions have used the income to build purpose-designed teaching rooms and facilities, while others have used it more generally. Be sure to attend an open evening for

your proposed course and check out the facilities that you will be using.

Also investigate the publication and consultancy activities of MBA lecturers and professors. Distrust course brochures that give no details of the capabilities of those who will be teaching you. If a business school has staff with strong, high-level consultancy experience, who write the key academic or management-oriented books, they will show about it in those brochures.

Obtain information by telephone on the number of different nationalities on last year's MBA programme, and inquire about their average age. Internationally recognised business schools will have many different nationalities within their student body, and you will benefit from this mix in the group work that is a necessary component of a good programme.

Average age is another good indicator of quality since a high average age means the students have greater management experience. Good MBA teaching uses this experience in class discussions: a class of 21-year-olds will have little insight into business

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NAME	Country	Start	End	Age	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	24
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PHARMACEUTICALS				SPIRITS, WINES & CIGARS			
239.00 Eli Lilly	495	+ 1	2	5.00 99	524	- 1	52
13.00 Ciba Pharm	135	+ 1	2	5.00 99	525	- 1	52
216.00 Ciba Pharm	241	- 1	2	5.00 99	526	- 1	52
10.00 Ciba Pharm	10	- 1	2	5.00 99	527	- 1	52
10.00 Ciba Pharm	10	- 1	2	5.00 99	528	- 1	52
13.00 Ciba Pharm	13	- 1	2	5.00 99	529	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	530	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	531	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	532	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	533	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	534	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	535	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	536	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	537	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	538	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	539	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	540	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	541	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	542	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	543	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	544	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	545	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	546	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	547	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	548	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	549	- 1	52
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24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	552	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	553	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	554	- 1	52
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24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	683	- 1	52
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24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	686	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	687	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	688	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	689	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	690	- 1	52
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24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	692	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	693	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	694	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	695	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2	5.00 99	696	- 1	52
24.00 Ciba Pharm	24	- 1	2</				

Defence of

Constitution

Rule of

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 017 431 0000

SECRET

Dynamic Defence

Marketing

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Interline: Dobson Park Industries, Minstergate, Ockham, Wokingham & Dudley. **Final:** Castings, Chamberlin & Hill, Lazard Select Investment Trust, Mercury European Privatisation Trust, Wembley. **Economic statistics:** CBI monthly trends enquiry (May), engineering sales and orders at current and constant prices (March).

Holiday Inns should see a strong performance in dollar terms, but the increase in sterling

POWERGEN: Analysts expect non-recurring profits from high pool prices to help the power generator to turn in final pre-tax profits of between £507 million and £515 million, compared with £476 million last time. A dividend of 15.0p (12.65p) has been forecast.

JANET BUSH

The Sunday Times: Buy IWP, Cranswick. **The Observer:** Buy Iceland, Cranswick. Sell Blue Circle. **Independent on Sunday:** Buy Carlton Communications, British Airways, British Telecom. **The Sunday Telegraph:** Buy Thorn EMI, Northern Leisure. Take up David Brown rights. Hold British Airways. **The Mail on Sunday:** Buy Sage, Metro Radio, Churchill China.

Index-linked back in fashion

performance. In essence, when the real rate of interest falls faster than expected there is a tendency for index-linked stock to outperform. When the real rate of interest rises faster than expected, conventionals tend to generate higher returns. This helps to explain the return to favour of the index-linked market. Instead of rising as was expected, short-term real rates of interest have either remained unchanged (in the US and UK) or fallen (in Germany and Japan).

The key issue for investors is whether this process has, for

**MICHAEL LENHOFF AND
SIMON RUBINSOHN**
Capel-Cure Myers

WORD-WATCHING

QUEER PLUNGER
(c) An adventurous 18th-century con man. According to *Green's Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue*: "Queer plungers are cheats who throw themselves into the water, in order that they may be taken up by their accomplices, who carry them to one of the houses appointed by the Humane Society for the recovery of drowned persons, where they are rewarded by the Society with a guinea each; and the supposed drowned persons, pretending he was driven to that extremity by great necessity, is also frequently sent away with a contribution in his pocket; -"

1 ... Nxd4+! 2 Rxd4 (2 exd4 is met the same way) 2 ... Rge1+ 3 Kf3 Oxd3+

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Canada \$	2.248	2.088	
Cyprus Cyp£	0.757	0.702	
Denmark Kr	8.48	8.66	
Finland Mk\$	7.49	6.84	
France Fr	6.46	7.21	
Germany Dm	2.42	2.21	
Greece Dr	361.0	356.0	
Hong Kong \$	12.89	11.83	
Ireland Pt	1.03	0.95	
Israel	5.2745	4.5945	
Italy Lire	2775.00	2560.00	
Japan Yen	151.00	135.00	
Malta	0.603	0.548	
Netherlands Gld ..	2.682	2.462	
Norway Kr	10.68	8.60	
Portugal Esc	249.50	231.00	
Sw Africa Rd	5.98	5.59	
Spain Ptas	204.50	191.50	
Sweden Kr	12.27	11.47	
Switzerland F	2.02	1.84	
Turkey Lira	refer	6761.0	
USA \$	1.673	1.543	

THE POUND	
US dollar	
1.5735 (+0.0015)	
German mark	
2.2674 (-0.0026)	
Exchange Index	
84.9 (+0.2)	
Bank of England official close (Aprt)	

STOCK MARKET	
FT 30 share	
2484.9 (-29.2)	
FT-SE 100	
3261.0 (-49.3)	
New York Dow Jones	
4341.33 (-89.23)	
Tokyo Nikkei Avege	
16140.85 (-279.91)	

Will ICS survive the legacy of Eighties' boom?

FIVE law lords will ask themselves a tricky question today. What should the Investors' Compensation Scheme (ICS) pay out to the customers of collapsed investment firms under its existing rules? Or, put another way, what do ICS's rules mean?

The lower courts and the Court of Appeal have grappled with the question for more than two years and failed to find an answer. The House of Lords is the final arbiter: the financial futures of thousands of investors hang on its decision. But the viability of the ICS, the industry-funded scheme set up in 1988 to protect investors, could also be at stake.

At issue in the House of Lords is whether the ICS should pay compensation to the thousands of mostly elderly people who were persuaded to take out home income plans, mortgaging their homes in the late 1980s and then using part of the resulting lump sum, not for investment, but to buy

cars, holidays or other items. This was a variation on the disastrous home income plans widely sold in the late 1980s, where people were encouraged to mortgage their homes and invest the resulting lump sum in an investment bond, run by an insurance company or financial adviser. But the value of their investments plummeted, along with the stock market, and their capital was eroded by withdrawals of income to cover higher mortgage repayments as interest rates rose. In some cases, the interest was rolled up and added to the loan, creating an ever-growing debt.

Barnett Sampson, the firm of solicitors representing 400 home income plan victims, says that the ICS should compensate investors for their total loss, including sums spent. Compensation paid out by the ICS should be the same as in a court of law, which would put people back

Sara McConnell heralds judgment day for the Investors' Compensation Scheme

In their pre-plan position, it says. Last summer, the Court of Appeal agreed with Barnett Sampson that the ICS should compensate for the whole mortgage debt.

ICS, faced with an extra bill that could stretch to £40 million, took the case to the House of Lords. It argues that investors who had spent money have already benefited and that they should only be compensated for investment losses. However, it claims that its concerns extend beyond the outcome of this case to questions about how it investigates cases and compensates investors.

At the moment, it has to prove that what it is paying out is "fair and proper". If its

decisions, not based on case law, have to reflect those of a court of law, it would be forced to ask itself what a court of law would do, leading to long delays in paying out and costly legal advice. It says: "We are a final safety net. We can't afford to pay more on a goodwill basis." The ICS fears that if its costs escalate too much, the industry could halt its funding. The industry has moved to tap its exposure to claims, forcing the ICS to scale down payouts if claims exceed the cap.

Richard Barnett, of Barnett Sampson, however, says that the judgment will not be as far-reaching as ICS makes out. Cases where investors have spent money

rather than losing it at the hands of an adviser who then defaults will be rare in future, he believes. ICS also has the right to recover the cost of claims from third parties, in this case building societies. ICS has served a writ on ten building societies that lent much of the money for mortgages taken out as part of home income plans, demanding compensation.

Home income plans rank among the most disastrous attempts by parts of the financial services industry to cash in on the 1980s boom. The assumption underlying home income plan was that house prices would continue to rise. Stock markets would also continue to rise, generating a good income on investments that would pay off the interest on the mortgage. Neither assumption was borne out by events.

Sales of investment bond-based home income plans were effectively banned in

1990. Firms selling the plans almost all collapsed, leaving the ICS to pick up most of the pieces. The most active firms were almost all independent financial advisers, regulated by the now-defunct financial intermediaries, managers and brokers regulatory association (Fimbra). ICS has paid out £30 million in about 2,000 cases. Claims of £12 million could still be outstanding.

It is possible that the law lords could agree with the ICS that it does not have to put investors back in their original position, while still upholding the Court of Appeal's finding that investors are entitled to this compensation in law. Barnett Sampson will then activate writs that it has served on building societies, including Cheltenham & Gloucester and Alliance Leicester, and serve a writ on the West Bromwich — all of which funded loans for home income plans.

Bids for VSEL set to continue

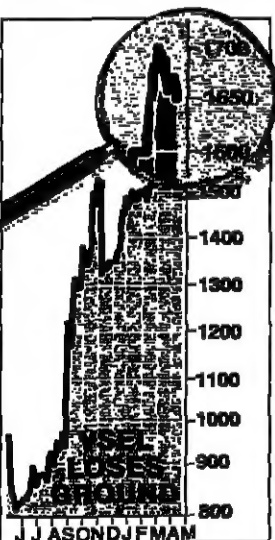
By ERIC REGULY

MICHAEL HESELTINE, President of the Board of Trade, is expected to announce as early as tomorrow that British Aerospace and GEC can renew their rival offers for VSEL, Britain's only submarine maker.

Mr Heseltine, who received the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on the two bids before his trade mission to China, is unlikely to impose any conditions on BAE. But he may insist that GEC keep VSEL's Barrow shipyard, as well as its own yard in Yarrow, in operation for a certain number of years.

The City expects bids to be launched almost immediately if no conditions are imposed on either company. In October BAE offered 3.3 BAE shares for every VSEL share. At BAE's current price of 540p, that would value VSEL at £18 a share and £684 million for the company. GEC offered £532 million in cash before the MMC inquiry was called.

GEC, which owns 14.9 per cent of VSEL, is expected to come back with an offer less than the value of which is less than the face value of BAE's. Analysts said BAE can afford to pay a higher price — perhaps £2 a share — because of



£200 million to £400 million in losses that can be reclaimed against tax.

Punters do not seem convinced that the bidding war will get deliciously nasty. Shares of VSEL climbed steadily from less than £13.50 in December to a high of £17.13 last month. In recent weeks, they have been on the wane and closed on Friday at £16.55.

The City thinks that GEC, headed by Lord Weinstock, might bid for BAE if it is laden with job-security guarantees and decides against pursuing VSEL. GEC has about £2 billion in cash and could afford a larger company than VSEL.

UK and Germany reject call to build son of Concorde

By ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A CALL for the development of a new 350-seat supersonic airliner to replace Concorde has been rejected by the British and German partners in Airbus Industrie.

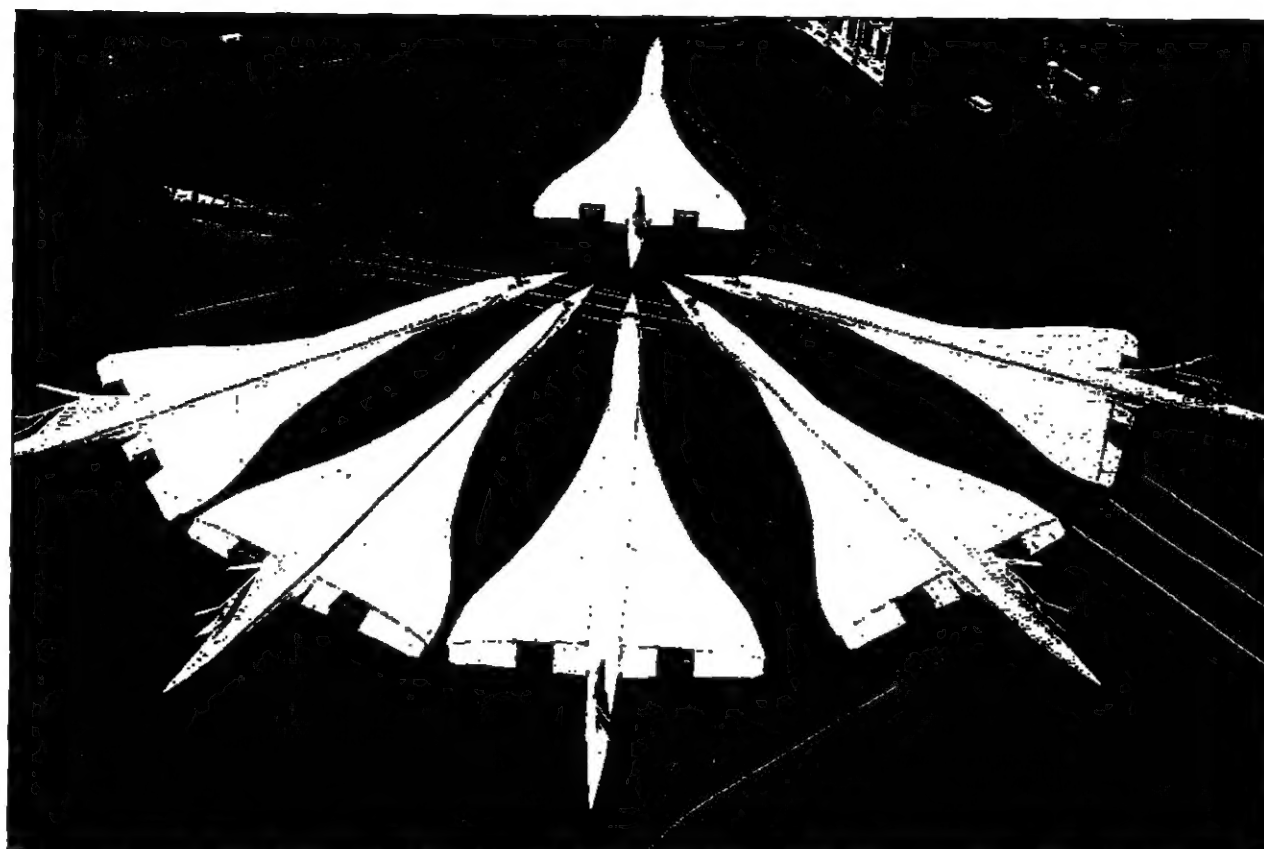
They have told Aerospatiale, their French partner in the European planemaker consortium, that they do not believe demand will be strong enough to justify the \$15 billion to \$20 billion development costs, even though it would cut the journey time from London to Tokyo to just six hours.

Claude Terrazzoni, head of the aircraft division at Aerospatiale, said: "Our European partners think this market may not develop. Neither Britain nor Germany believes in the project."

Despite the rejection, Aerospatiale, whose former Sud Aviation developed the 100-seat Concorde with British partners 25 years ago, is determined to maintain its campaign for the creation of son of Concorde. "We believe in the supersonic plane," said Mr Terrazzoni.

According to Aerospatiale, a 350-seat transport, flying at twice the speed of sound, would cost some \$300 million to \$320 million. That is twice as much as a subsonic Boeing 747 jumbo.

But Mr Terrazzoni insists that tickets, costing 10 to 20 per cent more than the business fare for a subsonic jet, would find buyers if they were supported by a premium city



Flight of fancy: France's partners in Airbus Industrie say demand would not be strong enough to justify the new plane

centre to city centre service. According to Aerospatiale, the key market for the plane will be the Pacific rim around the year 2020, as demand for long-distance flights accelerates.

Since 75 per cent of flights to the Pacific rim are over water, the company believes opposition to the sonic boom would prove less strident. American objections to the noise of

Concorde's four Olympus engines were largely responsible for the failure of Concorde to become a commercial success.

Louis Gallois, president of Aerospatiale, said he would continue to lobby for a research programme to develop technologies for the plane.

"If we don't take the initiative, no one will," he said. "I am sure that one day the

Americans will start and we will have to react. There is no debate about the supersonic plane in Europe. There is in the USA."

Although Aerospatiale's partners in Airbus Industrie have rejected the supersonic plan, they are still debating whether to proceed with a new double-deck rival to the 747. Talks between the Airbus

partners and Boeing over a joint project have made little headway.

However, Airbus has apparently reshaped its plans for a 600-seat to 800-seat plane, codenamed the A3XX. If Boeing will not collaborate, Aerospatiale hopes Airbus will press ahead with a 500-seat version of the A3XX with other partners.

Ross Tieman, in Spain, on hopes for regional jets

Aerospace groups court China

BRITISH AEROSPACE and Aerospatiale of France will launch a new regional jet of their own if they fail to win a beauty parade for partners being conducted by the Chinese and the Koreans.

Aerospatiale, which is expected to sign a partnership agreement in regional aircraft with BAE next week, is so committed to the regional aircraft business — although the market is notoriously unprofitable — that it is prepared to compete head-on with an Asian

partnership backed by Boeing of America. The Anglo-French consortium would seek other partners, including Daimler-Benz Aerospace (Dasa) and Asian aerospace companies, to launch a twin-engine replacement for the BAE regional jet. Alternatively, a small jet could be developed by Airbus Industrie, the successful European jetliner consortium made up of Aerospatiale, Dasa, BAE and Casa of Spain.

Joining battle in a market barely able to support two rival planes is seen as a last resort by Aerospatiale. Louis Gallois, Aerospatiale's presi-

dent, has opened talks with Dasa to try to heal a dangerous rift between the two leading Airbus partners caused by his regional link-up with BAE. M Gallois wants a joint approach to the Chinese with Dasa, which controls Fokker, the Dutch regional jet maker, and which is bidding alone against Aerospatiale/BAE and Boeing for the Asian prize.

"The Chinese have said that they do not want to choose between the Europeans," M Gallois told journalists at a seminar near Girona, Spain, over the weekend. "I think the Europeans have a strong chance if they are united, but a poor chance separately."

Boeing, the Europeans' arch-rival, dominates the fast-growing Chinese market. Although the regional jet planned by the Chinese and Korean consortium will be assembled in Asia, after 2000,

participation would give the European aerospace industry a vital bridgehead into Pacific Asia, the world's strongest aircraft market.

Whereas Aerospatiale sees the European role largely as "technical assistance" with design certification and marketing, Dasa is anxious to ensure work for its factories. It has also insisted on leading any European collaboration in regional aircraft. Pressure on

in the combined marketing and support operation.

Design work will be concentrated in Toulouse, along with assembly of aircraft from parts supplied by the partners.

The link will create the world's largest regional aircraft group, with combined sales of £550 million. Collaboration will help all three partners to reduce their losses in the regional aircraft business, in which excess capacity is an old problem, and will enhance Aerospatiale's attractions to investors.

Aerospatiale is likely to be privatised by the new right-of-centre government in Paris. The group is, however, undercapitalised, and any sale is likely to include an issue of new shares taking the offer well beyond the group's £15 billion (£1.8 billion) valuation.

Privatisation will make it easier for Aerospatiale to develop through joint ventures and acquisitions. Apart from the BAE deal, Aerospatiale has now reached agreement with Dasa over a joint venture in missiles. Talks with Dasa about a joint venture in satellites are also progressing well.

Decision day on link for societies

By ROBERT MILLER

THE Halifax and Leeds Permanent building societies report that they have received exceptionally large mail bags from members voting on their proposed merger and subsequent stock market conversion.

The societies will hold separate special meetings today in Halifax and Leeds to enable members to cast their final votes and to ask the respective boards of directors any questions.

Both the Halifax and the Leeds are confident that they will receive approval to proceed with their plan to create a £90 billion Halifax bank, which will dominate the personal financial services market.

No precise figures will be put on the value of the free shares bonus that will be given to members after the stock market flotation in 1997. The best estimate is that about 10 million qualifying members of the Leeds and the Halifax could be in line for payouts of between £500 and £600.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

SIB wants more regulatory power

THE Securities and Investments Board, the chief city regulator, is in talks with the Treasury about increasing the power it has over the other regulators. At present, SIB does not have the power to dictate to the other self-regulating organisations (SROs) about the way they conduct their business — it can only advise. It does, however, have the power to take away recognition from a regulating body if necessary. SIB's bid to increase its power is part of a review of the regulatory structure, which resulted in the merger between Fimbra and Lauro to form the Personal Investment Authority (PIA).

As well as hoping to increase its powers over other City regulators, SIB is also attempting to obtain more powers to act against errant firms, including the ability to petition for bankruptcy. Increasing SIB's power would involve a change in legislation and could take some time to materialise. SIB's bid to increase its powers may well increase friction with the other SROs, comprising the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation, the Securities and Futures Authority and the PIA. Quite a few members of the financial services industry believe that the current two-tier system of regulation with SIB representing the lead regulator is wasteful and leads to a duplication of effort. A recent High Court judgment emphasised that the relationship between SIB and the other SROs is only advisory.

Leeson queries for Lyell

SIR Nicholas Lyell, Attorney-General, is to face questions over the failure of the Serious Fraud Office to question Nick Leeson, the former Barings derivatives trader held in a Frankfurt jail pending the outcome of extradition proceedings launched by the Singaporean authorities. Denis MacShane, Labour MP for Rotherham, has tabled a series of written questions on the collapse of Barings, caused by Mr Leeson's excessive trading in derivatives. Mr MacShane is unhappy with the replies, which he claims revealed that the Government has no interest in pursuing the case. He said: "The Serious Fraud Office sent investigators to Singapore yet Leeson, who is willing to spill the beans, sits unbothered by either SFO or Bank of England investigators."

Two held over BCCI

TWO former Peruvian Central Bank officials sought on corruption charges in connection with the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) were arrested in Brazil and Peru's Government plans to seek their extradition. Leonel Figueroa and Hector Neyra, the central bank's president and its general manager during the Government of the former President Alan Garcia, were detained on Saturday by police in Curitiba in southern Brazil, newspaper and television reports said. They are accused of taking a \$3.2 million bribe from BCCI to withdraw \$270 million of Peru's reserves from Deutschland Bank and Swiss Bank and to deposit the money in the now-defunct BCCI, which was shut down worldwide amid massive fraud allegations.

Consumer upturn near

THE long-awaited upturn in consumer spending should take place next year, according to Professor Douglas McWilliams, economic adviser to the Chartered Institute of Marketing. Professor McWilliams claims that Britain's high street retailers should see business pick up as a result. He argues that wages are rising faster than prices. "Even without tax decreases next year, I believe this would provide consumers with more disposable income," he says. His views contrast sharply with many high street retailers, who say they see little prospect of an upturn in spending. However, Professor McWilliams says: "Next year should be the turning point for consumer spending and will see the start of the retail recovery."

Asda joins cola war

THE battle for supremacy in the cola market steps up today when Asda, the supermarket group, launches its own-label "no-sugar" cola. Asda's launch comes in the wake of highly successful moves into own-label fizzy drinks by supermarket rivals. J Sainsbury's own-label Classic Cola now accounts for about 60 per cent of its total cola sales and the supermarket chain claims an 11 per cent share of the UK market. Coca-Cola remains the dominant brand, with a 61 per cent share of the world market. Asda argues, however, that no-sugar colas are the fastest growing area of the market. Pepsi controls 19 per cent of the no-sugar market, selling 330ml cans at 33p each. Asda, by charging 25p for its no-sugar cola, plans to undercut Pepsi by 8p a can.

Cadbury's Russian move

CADBURY SCHWEPFES, the confectionary group, is expected to confirm reports today that it plans to build a £75 million factory near St Petersburg. It should be completed in the second half of 1996. The company, which sells one million chocolate bars a day in Russia, hopes the factory will help to double its market share to nearer 10 per cent and intends to use it as a base for exports to other countries in the former Soviet Union. Cadbury currently supplies Russia with chocolate bars from plants in Britain, Ireland, Germany and South Africa. Mars is also building a plant in Russia, which is Europe's third largest chocolate market, while Suchard and Nestlé have invested in local Russian companies.

Heseltine bullish for prospects in Peking

By COLIN NARBROUGH
WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH exporters to China can rapidly make up for any loss of business that has arisen from the London-Peking dispute over Hong Kong's future, according to Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, just back from China. To help to improve the political climate for intensified trade, he has agreed to set up a bilateral structure involving regular ministerial meetings to foster commercial links.

In an interview with *The Times* after his return at the weekend from a week-long visit to China, Mr Heseltine said that the sheer scale of opportunity in the fast-growing Chinese market meant that business lost over the past two or three years would pale into insignificance compared with what lies ahead.

Mr Heseltine's visit, the first by a Cabinet Minister to China for two years,

has reduced concern in the business community that the long dispute between Peking and London over arrangements for Hong Kong after its return to Chinese sovereignty in 1997, had prompted China to restrict dealings with UK firms.

Mr Heseltine said that any loss of business was "not as much as the headlines would lead one to believe" and Britain remained the leading European investor in China and the leading country in Europe in technology transfer.

The trade mission he led to China aboard a specially leased jumbo jet was the largest ever from Britain. Well over £1 billion worth of deals were struck, with more expected to follow. The mission started in Peking and went on to Shanghai and Canton. Mr Heseltine said that the reception he was given by Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister, Wu Li, the International Trade Minister, and other Chinese officials was "extremely

warm". This contrasted with the continued bitterness of exchanges between London and Peking over Hong Kong.

Mr Heseltine said that he made clear to the Chinese that Britain had "no other agenda than the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong after 1997". He sought to stay away from the substance of the dispute over Hong Kong and expressed the hope that his visit meant a significant improvement in bilateral relations.

The "joint framework" that the two governments will set up will allow regular ministerial discussions on promoting business between British companies and China's state enterprises, municipal authorities and growing private sector. Mr Heseltine underlined the continued importance of the public sector in China, where state enterprises still account for the bulk of output. "China has dramatic plans for increasing imports over the next few years," he said.



Li Peng, China's Prime Minister, aims to boost trade

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Black sheep on the farm and in Parliament

Ever since Lenny Henry pointed out that Sunday night drama contains no black faces, it has been interesting to see how this is pulled off, even without resorting to pre-immigration Britain for *The Darling Buds of May*. For example, last night's *The Vet* (BBC1) was set in rural Devon, where the 16-year-old son of an innkeeper, Holt, usefully remarked to a new chum how odd the school was. "How do you mean?" asked the other boy. "All the white faces," he shrugged. Meanwhile in ITV's *The Governor*, Lynda La Plante has given herself a dreadful dilemma. Of the 88 felons held in Janet McTeer's nick, how many should be black? In reaching such a controversial decision, a fight breaks out in her conscience. Realism scuffles violently with political correctness, while tokenism takes advantage of the chaos to sledgeman the toilets. Realism loses, after a check-

slash from a home-fashioned knife. Result: the 88 prisoners include two West Indians, and the viewer can take it any way he likes. Perhaps the nick is in Devon. *The Vet* isn't bad. In the faint praise coined by Terry Wogan during last week's *Eurovision Song Contest*, it's not one of their worst. Suzanne Burden (as Jennifer) will do a lot for the oppressed blonde-fringe minority; meanwhile we pig-ignorant (or sheep-ignorant) viewers who yearn for the job of "agricultural story editor" on *The Archers* may sweep aside all the routine dramatic nonsense about inter-vet rivalries and listen for key words such as "scouring".

The world of *The Vet* is no rural idyll, thank goodness. The landscape is broody, with an orange filter enflaming the sky, and there is tragedy in those barns. You remember in *Far From the Madding Crowd*, when Gabriel Oak's

sheep all swell up like footballs and then hurl themselves off a cliff? *The Vet* takes its inspiration from such everyday tales of country folk, and in last night's quite powerful story a young struggling farmer enters his barn to discover that all his lambs had died tragically of thirst, and were now (as far as he could see, peering through the gloom) inert cylinders wrapped in fluff car-seat covers.

The omni-competent Jennifer encountered a bit of sexual prejudice last night, but if you wanted to insult her, her being a woman would not be the most efficient target. What annoys Jennifer is the condescending assumption among her fellow country vets that her London-based expertise extends only to little white poodles. She keeps telling Chris, her unsympathetic boss, that this is not the case, but he has a knack of listening without hearing. Chris is



Lynne Truss

played by Richard Hawley, best known as the loyal (short) sidekick to Jane Tennison in *Prime Suspect*, but here given a well-deserved chance to be in charge. The odd thing about Hawley is that, though perfectly credible as a detective or veterinary surgeon, he looks so exactly like a Fleet Street journalist that he could stroll into Wapping, hang his jacket over a chair and start typing a story with two

fingers, and nobody would lift an eyebrow.

Lets hope next week's story concerns a performing lapdog with a weepy eye, or something. What with *The Hanging Gale* (BBC1) running after *The Vet*, there's only so much crushing rural misery that a Sunday night viewer can stand. Last night, the plots of the two serials came eerily close — both *The Vet* and *The Hanging Gale* contained market scenes in which precious cattle were sold for less than their worth — but whereas the Devon farmers could sell up finally (bad enough), the poor Irish were burnt out of their houses and sent off barefoot on the road.

The Hanging Gale's McGann brothers are slowly emerging as characters, but it's still somehow necessary to take them in alphabetical order, thus: Joe is manly and charitable; Mark is moony over his sister-in-law (shades of

Legends of the Fall); Paul is decent and wears a distinctive shovel-hat; and Stephen blazes with ire. Call me an old pessimist, but in *The Hanging Gale* I suspect things are going to get a lot worse before they get better.

Michael Cockerell worked his usual horrifying magic with *Westminster's Secret Service* (BBC2), his report on the whip-crack-away that keeps parliamentary voting on its toes. Presumably no party leader has ever attempted the experiment of removing the whips, to see how the chaps would vote without either the pressure of blackmail or the temptation of preferment. Now it's too late to try. From the smugly amused manner of the self-confessed whips in last night's programme — including Lord Parkinson and Lord Whitlaw — it appeared that a cessation of whipping would sim-

ply spoil the fun. Cockerell ended his report with a rather loaded simile. It concerned Parliament needing whips the way civilisation needs sewers. Possibly he let his mask of journalistic objectivity slip a little here. What surprised me, however, was that while he deftly covered all the angles — the deadened voting, the Masonic secrecy, the "dirty book", the "shit sister" — he never pointed out how the system surely originates in the public school.

Perhaps it's too obvious to mention, but Tony Hancock's old description of grown-ups as "just moth-eaten kids" applied quite horribly well to the self-satisfied whips seen in *Westminster's Secret Service*. It was so easy to picture them as nasty schoolboys, hoarding the knowledge of where Atkins Minor keeps his jam tarts — and then spending the rest of their professional lives doing the big grown-up equivalent.

BBC1

- 6.00 Business Breakfast (72396)
- 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (10607200)
- 9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion, on a topical subject (s) (1965735)
- 10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7706342) 10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days (i) (Ceefax) (1021174)
- 10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekly magazine series (s) (4725938)
- 12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8596006) 12.05 Pebble Mill. Gloria Hunniford talks to musician Phil Coulter and to Stan Laurel's daughter, Lois (s) (5677830) 12.50 Regional News and weather (15011358)
- 1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (27936) 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (7672824)
- 1.50 Going for Gold. The entertaining Henry Kelly with another round of the general knowledge quiz with European contestants (s) (10181480) 2.15 Knots Landing. American drama series (s) (6973218) Wales: Welsh Questions. Live 3.00 Today's Gourmet. Jacques Pepin prepares recipes from the Paris region of France (7071)
- 3.30 Carlton (5825174) 3.45 Dinobabies (i) (133938) 4.10 Peter Pan and the Pirates (i). (Ceefax) (s) (2517767) 4.30 The Movie Game. (Ceefax) (s) (1639718)
- 4.55 Newsworld. (Ceefax) (7914687) 5.05 Blue Peter. (Ceefax) (s) (1373936)
- 5.25 Neighbours (i). (Ceefax) (s) (244532)
- 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (919)
- 6.30 Regional news magazines (241)
- 7.00 That's Showbusiness. Entertainment quiz, presented by Mike Smith. The guests are Pat Coombe, Phil Jupitus, Blythe Duff and Moray Hunter. (Ceefax) (s) (5280)
- 7.30 Watchdog Healthcheck. Judith Hann and Alice Bear present the health magazine. (Ceefax) (s) (483)
- 8.00 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (8700)



Keith, Gaunt and their charges (8.30pm)

- 8.30 Need of Kin. Sit-com starring Penelope Keith and William Gaunt as grandparents left to look after their grandchildren. (Ceefax) (s) (9385)
- 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1445)
- 9.30 Panorama: Home Truths. A report on the slump in the house market. (Ceefax) (549557)
- 10.10 FILM: Silent Movie (1932) starring Fatty Wigg and Mabel Farrel. A thriller about a serial killer who copies a screenwriter's scenarios. Directed by Lee Phillips. (Ceefax) (767648)
- 11.40 Film 95 with Barry Norman. Among the films reviewed are *Ed Wood* and *Richie Rich*. (Ceefax) (s) (517164)
- 12.10 FILM: The Internette Project (1974) starring James Coburn. A man with a past is offered a top American government post and decides to do away with, on the same evening, the four people who could expose him. Directed by Ken Hughes. (Ceefax) (4375743) 1.25 Weather (9015965)

BBC2

- 6.20 Open University: The Origins Of State Social Work. 6.45 The US in the 20th Century: Representing the People 7.35 Managing Schools: My Times and Yours (9564006)
- 8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (7653174) (3837235)
- 8.15 Westminster On-Line With Sarah Bader (s) (3837235)
- 9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children 10.00-10.25 Playdays (1022280) 1.45 Words and Pictures (5617718) 2.00 Noddy (8620607)
- 2.10 FILM: Triumph Of The Heart (1991) starring Merio Van Peebles and Lane Davies. A drama about an American football star who befriends a young man with a physical handicap. When the star's career is threatened by a life-threatening disease, he finds himself inspired by his young friend. Directed by Richard Michaels (s). Includes News, regional news and weather at 3.00 (25025) 3.55 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (3769193)
- 4.00 Today's the Day. Marilyn Lewis with another round of the recent history quiz (s) (984)
- 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. Innovative recipes (s) (396)
- 5.00 Esther. A studio discussion on bullying, chaired by Esther Rantzen. With guest Duncan Goodhew, who was a victim owing to his dyslexia (s) (8216)
- 5.30 Catchword with Paul Cole (s) (646)
- 6.00 Buck Rogers In The 25th Century. Science-fiction adventures starring Gil Gerard (i) (49455848)
- 7.35 Steven Spielberg's: Amazing Stories: The Eternal Mind. A dying scientist transfers his mind to a computer. Starring Jeffrey Jones (765377)
- 8.00 The Net. Computer magazine. (Ceefax) (s) (6242)
- 8.30 Perpetual Motion. In praise of the DC3 Dakota, of which, 60 years after its maiden flight, there are still 1,000 in use (i). (Ceefax) (s) (8577)
- 9.00 Outer Limits: Valerie 23. Science-fiction thriller series. (Ceefax) (s) (578822)



Santiago Marchant sing their hit (9.40pm)

- 9.40 The Music Biz: The Song. (Ceefax) (s) (334335)
- 10.30 Newsnight with Mark Mardell. (Ceefax) (320006)
- 11.15 Letterman in London (s) (388226)
- 12.00 Open University: Materials — Strike A Light (1017439) 12.25 Design Principles and Practices (1897897) 1.15 Weather (4228555)
- 1.20 The Record. The day in Parliament (s) (2719491). Ends at 1.50
- 5.15 BBC Select: DOH Special — Doing No Harm (987743) 5.30-6.00 RCN Nursing Update (47526)

The numbers next to each TV programme are the Video PlusCode numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder to receive a programme at a particular time. For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 123456 (calls cost 5p plus 10p per minute, plus VAT). For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 123456 (calls cost 5p plus 10p per minute, plus VAT). For more details call VideoPlus on 0800 123456 (calls cost 5p plus 10p per minute, plus VAT).



Jenema Redgrave as Eleanor Bramwell (ITV, 9.00pm)

Bramwell
ITV, 9.00pm
Lucy Gannon, the creator of *Soldier, Soldier* and *Peak Practice* goes back to Victorian London for her latest drama, which follows the ambitions of a young woman doctor. Through social history glossed with modern feminism, the point is forcefully made that Jenema Redgrave's Eleanor Bramwell is a lonely voice in a man's world. "The female brain," declares Robert Hardy's paragonising surgeon as he hauls Eleanor from his hospital, "is smaller and weaker and not suited to scientific matters. God made women for other things than medicine." Thus slighted, Eleanor leaves her comfortable home to set up in the East End slums. But not before she has exposed the hypocrisy and incompetence of the male medical establishment.

The Wild West
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Part three of Ric Burns's impressive series opens in 1865. The Civil War is over and the pace of western expansion quickens. At its heart is the building of the transcontinental railway, an heroic enterprise that proceeds at the astonishing rate of a mile of new track a day. The invention of moving film is still 30 years away but as previously in this series, the use of still photographs is so striking that its absence hardly matters. The other resources, paintings, the words of contemporaries and a popular song combine intelligently with a crisp and lucid commentary. Two famous westerners, William Cody and the future General Custer, make their first appearance. But they are far from the heroes of Hollywood myth.

The Music Biz: The Song
BBC2, 9.40pm

Phy the poor songwriters, particularly if they do not own the copyright. Older viewers may remember a Brooklyn guitarist called Frankie Lyman and The Tennysons. Their big hit, penned by Herman Santiago and Jimmy Merchant, was *Why Do Fools Fall In Love?* It became a pop standard, but the writers received not a penny in royalties. One became a cab driver, the other lived on social security. This sad tale, and his happy ending, forms the centrepiece of a disenchanted look at an area of the music business that has a few big winners and many losers. The low status of songwriters is exemplified by the pair who produced Madonna's *Like a Virgin*. When they finally met the singer, she dismissed them with barely a word.

Letterman in London
BBC2, 11.15pm

The champion of the American talk show circuit, and this year's Oscars host, comes to Britain to present a week of programmes. Sky One viewers were able to see him last week but this is David Letterman's first appearance on the BBC. Beyond a naive charm his appeal is difficult to grasp but Americans love him. Within a year of launching his show on CBS he had displaced the NBC rival, long and famously presented by Johnny Carson, at the top of the ratings. His programmes have been noted for unruly guests, such as Madonna, Elton John, who appears tonight, and an unlikely to maintain the tradition but with Joanna Lumley, Jennifer Saunders and Peter On'ole also lined up, who knows?

© Peter Waymark

CARLTON

- 6.00am GMTV (23957)
- 8.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (8291464) 9.55 London Today (Ceefax) and weather (1026629)
- 10.00 Step by Step. American sit-com (i) (s) (96311)
- 10.30 This Morning (5457822) 12.20pm London Today (Teletext) and weather (558590)
- 12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (7275848)
- 12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (7287687) 1.25 Coronation Street (i). (Teletext) 1.55 A Country Practice (s) (7872879)
- 2.20 Blue Heelers (9183718) 3.15 Carlton Parenting Week. Fiona Oates looks ahead to programmes aimed at parents everywhere (4278880) 3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (7425923) 3.25 London Today (Teletext) and weather (8878844)
- 3.30 Rainbow (s) (5829900) 3.40 Tota TV (i) (s) (503267) 3.50 Scooby Doo (i) (1879006) 4.15 Hurricanes (i). (Teletext) (s) (2582562) 4.40 Terror Towers (Teletext) (s) (4881006)
- 5.10 After 5 with Trish Williamson (Teletext) (1363735) 5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) (518754) 5.55 Your Show. Viewers' opinions (417532)
- 6.00 Home and Away (i). (Teletext) (777)
- 6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (667)
- 7.00 Get a Life! presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan. Includes the story of a little girl who survived difficult facial surgery to become a queen of the catwalk (7648)



William Roache and Denise Black (7.30pm)

- 7.30 Coronation Street. Denise returns to Weatherfield to discuss the future with Ken. (Teletext) (551)
- 8.00 Pot of Gold presented by Des O'Connor. (Teletext) (2518)
- 9.00 Bramwell (Teletext) (s) (5377)
- 10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (78071)
- 10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (425183)
- 10.40 Sport in Question. Ian St John and Jimmy Greaves are joined by cricketer Clive Lloyd, Brian Clough and Rob Hughes, football correspondent of *The Times* (s) (10514)
- 11.40 Carlton Sport — World League of American Football. Highlights of London Monarchs v Barcelona Dragons (846822)
- 12.10am The Equalizer (7829575)
- 1.10 Best of British Motorsport. Geoff Clark introduces action from different formulae during the 1995 season (2578502)
- 1.40 Sport AM (9116781)
- 2.40 Quiz Night (9517052)
- 3.05 FILM: The Black Rider (1954, b/w) starring Jimmy Hanley. A young reporter thwarts the plans of smugglers "haunting" a ruined castle. Directed by Wolf Rilla (488472)
- 4.10 On the Live Side with Booker T and Richie Cole (s) (1824295)
- 4.30 The Chrystal Rose Show (i) (s) (1039103)
- 4.55 The Time... The Place (i) (s) (1335697)
- 5.30 ITN Morning News (34052). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

- 6.35 Spiff and Hercules (7108483)
- 7.00 The Big Breakfast (10261)
- 9.00 You Bet Your Life (s) (69848)
- 9.30 Schools: Geography Start Here! (4447261) 9.45 Ready, Set, Go (4221880) 10.02 Stage Two Science (9635547) 10.20 Place and People (2383377) 10.40 The English Programme (5781386) 11.05 Encyclopaedia Galactica (8604261) 11.15 Visual World (752880) 11.30 Film and Video Showcase (2344547) 11.40 Breaking the Mould (306884)
- 12.00 Right to Reply (i). (Teletext) (s) (76884)
- 12.30 Sesame Street. (i) (32735) 1.30 Mr Men followed by Paddington, The Wombles, and Further Tales of the Riverbank (i) (4256416)
- 1.55 Out of the Past. An Equinox documentary looking at the modern face of archaeology (i). (Teletext) (5003735)
- 3.00 The Late Late Show (s) (6772087)
- 3.55 Garden Club (i). (Teletext) (s) (5183551)
- 4.30 Fifteen To One. (Teletext) (s) (484)
- 5.00 The Golden Girls. More comedy from the Miami matrons (i). (Teletext) (s) (8754)
- 5.30 The Five Mrs Buchanans. American sit-com about four wives and their overbearing mother-in-law. (Teletext) (s) (716)
- 6.00 The Cosby Show (i). (Teletext) (829)
- 6.30 Hangin' With Mr Cooper. American college comedy. (Teletext) (s) (205)
- 7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (371765)
- 7.55 The Slot. Viewers' video soapbox (305803)
- 8.00 Jimmy's (i). (Teletext) (4398)
- 8.30 Home Improvement. American comedy series about the host of a television DIY series. (Teletext) (s) (3445)



William Cody, nicknamed Buffalo Bill (9.00pm)

- 9.00 The Wild West. (Teletext) (s) (3919)
- 10.00 NYPD Blue. New York police drama series. (Teletext) (s) (351716)
- 10.55 FILM: Forty Guns (1957, b/w) starring Barry Sullivan and Barbara Stanwyck. Western drama about a gunslinger-turned-lawman and his battle with an autocratic rancher who runs Tombstone with a private 40-strong army of gunmen. Directed by Samuel Fuller. (Teletext) (589516)
- 12.25am Catholics and Sex. The second of a four-part series. Catholic women from three generations talk about how the Church's ban on contraception has affected their lives (i) (7283385)
- 1.30 Clash Of the Ash. An Irish tale of a young hurling star who has to choose between his sport and his studies as well as his friend's former girlfriend (i) (920266)
- 2.25 FILM: Over the Moon (1937, b/w) starring Merle Oberon and Rex Harrison. A comedy about a woman who inherits a fortune and then decides to go to the continent, pursued, much to the consternation of her doctor fiancé. Directed by Thornton Freeland and William K. Howard (393385). Ends at 3.50

VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA**
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 12.20pm-12.30 Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 1.25-1.30pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 1.35-1.40pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 1.45-1.50pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 1.55-2.00pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 2.05-2.10pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 2.15-2.20pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 2.25-2.30pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 2.35-2.40pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 2.45-2.50pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 2.55-3.00pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 3.05-3.10pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 3.15-3.20pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 3.25-3.30pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 3.35-3.40pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 3.45-3.50pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 3.55-4.00pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 4.05-4.10pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 4.15-4.20pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 4.25-4.30pm Anglia News and Weather (1026559) 4.35-4.40pm 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Lloyd's increases names' settlement package to £2.5bn

By SARAH BAGNALL
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

LLOYD'S of London is attempting to take the sting out of tomorrow's announcement of further losses of £1.5 billion by unveiling a settlement package of more than £2.5 billion to loss-making names.

After tense negotiations last week the value of the offer was raised from £2 billion to more than £2.5 billion — significantly above the £900 million names were offered in the last settlement initiative in May 1993. But the offer is less than the losses suffered by the names. The

forecast £1.5 billion loss, which relates to 1992, pushes the total losses in the last five years to almost £9 billion. More than 20,000 names are attempting to recover their losses by taking legal action, which Lloyd's is trying to halt by offering names an out-of-court settlement.

The latest offer, six months in the making, is in two parts — cash and credits. The cash element, in the form of cheques, has been dubbed "Harrods money" within Lloyd's because names can freely spend it — at Harrods if they wish.

The size of the cheque will be determined by the strength of a

names' legal actions. That is, each cheque will reflect the amount a name would expect to win from court actions, in turn determined by the level of insurance cover available to meet the award.

The balance of the offer is expected to be in the form of a credit. The drawback for names is that these credits can only be used to discharge debts to Lloyd's, which amount to £800 million. But still under discussion is the possibility that the credits could be used to help pay names' way into Equitas, the reinsurance company being set up to take over their old-year liabilities.

The offer, as with last time, is believed to have been structured to favour the hardest-hit names. While it will cover all names, it will offer those with exposure to more than one significant loss-making syndicate an extra piece of the cake. The details of these loadings, paid in credits, have yet to be finalised but it will be more sophisticated than last time. It is expected to be less related rather than purely syndicate based.

The financing of the offer comes from numerous sources. Funding the cash element of the offer are the 98 errors and omissions insurers, who provided cover to the Lloyd's

agencies being sued by the names, together with other Lloyd's professionals and related parties. The E&O insurers are thought to be contributing some £800 million — double the amount offered last time.

A further £100 million is expected to come from the members' agents, again double their contribution last time, while insurance brokers and accountancy firms are contributing further sums. However, in marked contrast to before, part of the funding is to come from ongoing names. Lloyd's proposes moving from a three-year accounting system to a one-year system at the end

of the year by closing 1993, 1994 and 1995 years of account. This will release profits early. Part of these profits will help to fund the offer.

In a separate move, the Lloyd's attempt to recover £300 million of unpaid debts is expected to take a new twist today when, for the first time in the insurance market's 308-year history, Lloyd's agencies will issue writs against names.

This is the first tangible evidence of the attempt to shift the burden of debt collection from the corporation to the market's professionals. A total of 44 writs are being served on 25 names.

Cabinet to spell out help for industry

By PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government will claim today that Britain's industrial competitiveness is improving as it launches a wide-ranging series of proposals aimed at supporting British business.

John Major will lead a team of Cabinet ministers in publishing the Government's latest White Paper on industrial competitiveness.

The document will attempt to chart improvements in Britain's industrial performance and propose a range of new moves that ministers believe will help it further.

Business groups will welcome the proposals although they are likely to receive a sceptical reception from Labour and the trade unions.

Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, will unveil the White Paper in the Commons this afternoon before he and Mr Major, together with a range of other ministers, including Kenneth Clarke, promote it at a formal launch afterwards.

The document will examine industrial performance sector by sector. It will not, however, publicly detail the Government's estimate that Britain is some 25 per cent behind its principal industrial rivals in terms of competitiveness.

Expectations are that it will maintain that although Britain boasts many world-class performing companies, most still form a "long tail" of industrial underperformers.

The competitive position of British companies is being impaired by inappropriate funding decisions, according to a survey by Barclays Merchantile, the asset finance house that is a subsidiary of Barclays Bank.

Barclays Merchantile found that more than 60 per cent of directors surveyed had "used cash or overdrafts to fund the purchase of capital equipment in the first quarter of 1995. The finance house argues that it would be more appropriate for companies to use long-term funding linked to the lifespan of the equipment.

Cash was the most popular method of funding across all industry sectors, with 50 per cent of those surveyed using their own funds for capital purchases. Only 23 per cent had used hire-purchase agreements and only 10 per cent had used leasing.

Charting progress, page 42

Referral threat to S&N bid

By MELVYN MARCUS
CITY EDITOR

SPECULATION over the likelihood of a referral of Scottish & Newcastle's proposed £425 million acquisition of Courage to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission is mounting.

Scottish & Newcastle's purchase of Courage from Foster's Brewing of Australia would create Britain's largest brewing combine with a claimed market share of around 25 per cent, some 2 per cent above Bass.

City analysts argue that the amalgam would actually give S&N/Courage a market share of 30 per cent, possibly more. Earlier this year Ted Kunkel, Foster's chief executive, declared that Courage had "increased volumes by 24 per cent and market share to 19.3 per cent". Warburg Securities, broker to Scottish & Newcastle, estimated last autumn that Courage's market share amounted to 20 per cent, with S&N's share put at 12 per cent, indicating a combined share of 32 per cent.

Analysts believe that by referring to a combined market share of "UK beer consumption" S&N is expanding the market definition to include personal imports, namely beer sold outside the UK but consumed in the UK. These total some 1.5 million barrels, effectively inflating the size of the market by more than 4 per cent.

Camelot faces protests over runaway profit

By JON ASHWORTH

CAMELOT GROUP, the National Lottery operator, is bracing itself for a storm of protest when its maiden set of financial results is published early next month.

This first complete snapshot of Camelot's financial affairs will show that profits in the year to March 31 have raced far ahead of expectations on the back of huge public interest in the National Lottery.

The sum paid to Camelot to cover operating costs and profits is thought to have reached nearly £90 million in the first 20 weeks alone — far higher than projections suggested. Camelot will earn an average of 5 per cent of sales over the seven-year term of its licence, but a skew towards higher earnings in the early stages means that the figure is running at closer to 9 per cent. The five members of the Camelot consortium — Cadbury Schweppes, GTECH, Racal, De La Rue, and ICL — are expected to share a pre-tax profit of £15 million to £20 million in the first financial year, once operating costs have been stripped out.

Camelot is under no obligation to disclose its earnings, but has decided to do so in the interests of good governance.

Tim Holley, the chief executive, is expected to emerge as the highest-paid director, on a basic salary of £240,000. Lottery sales in the 20 weeks to March 31 reached an estimated £1 billion.

The disclosures will fuel the debate over whether Camelot is being paid too much for its services. Richard Branson's rival UK Lottery Foundation had pledged to donate profits to charity, and the decision to award the National Lottery licence to a commercial operator sparked widespread controversy.

Camelot will point to huge start-up costs of more than £100 million and will argue that immense sums were at stake if it failed to meet the November 19 launch date. Camelot faced a fine of £1 million for every day over the deadline. A delay of more than a week would have forced Camelot to put the launch back to mid-February 1995 to avoid clashing with Christmas, resulting in a potential £90 million fine.

Camelot also faces a draconian penalty if its licence is revoked before the seven-year term is up. The penalty would be 25 per cent of the previous year's turnover, which, on current estimates of £5 billion in sales a year, would mean a £125 million fine. Camelot will claim that the ongoing financial risk justifies its earnings. Ticket sales are averaging

£105 million a week, making the UK's lottery the largest in the world, ahead of Spain's and Japan's. Punters are spending £62 million to £63 million a week on the on-line game, and a further £43 million to £44 million on instant games. Total ticket sales have reached £1.8 billion. Camelot had expected it to take at least two years to reach these levels.

Camelot expects to lose some business to rival lottery ventures, including the revamped NHS Loto, which is currently advertising heavily on television. Scratch-n-Win, an instant game venture backed by Inter Lotto of America, has signed up more than 5,000 outlets and sold two million scratch cards in three weeks. Scratch-n-Win is being distributed through Nurdin & Peacock, the cash-and-carry wholesaler, and WH Smith's wholesale newspaper distribution arm, which has access to Tesco, John Menzies and other high street chains. The cards will also be sold in pubs in London and the South East.

Sales of Camelot's instant games have hit £300 million in two months. By the end of last week, 109 people had won the £50,000 instant jackpot, and 12 had won the £25,000 top prize on the second game in the series, Cash Roulette. Camelot plans to introduce new games on a rolling basis as old stock is used up.



Tim Holley is expected to emerge as Camelot's highest-paid director, on £240,000

Murdoch to seek local partners if Italian TV deal goes ahead

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

RUPERT MURDOCH, chairman and chief executive of The News Corporation, would seek local partners for the purchase of Silvio Berlusconi's television networks in Italy if the deal were to go ahead.

Speaking on BBC's *Money Programme* last night, Mr Murdoch said that tentative estimates of the value of the Berlusconi deal were in the order of \$2 billion. He added that he did not know yet whether any such deal would be done through News International, the European subsidiary of News Corp and parent company of *The Times*, or through BSkyB, which is 40

per cent owned by News International.

"If it comes off, and Mr Berlusconi agrees to sell, we'll be looking for Italian partners as the first priority," he said.

Mr Murdoch said that he would also be interested in buying CNN, the worldwide cable television news service controlled by Ted Turner "if it was for sale".

He added that he did not expect to see any visible results from News Corp's recent alliance with the American telephone company MCI in the near future. "I think that it's several years, five years, before you see the completion of

the fibre-optic network in America; and in Britain and in Europe that's at least 15 years away," he said.

Referring to his British interests, Mr Murdoch said he had not wanted New Century Television, a consortium in which BSkyB holds a major interest, to bid for the licence for Channel 5, Britain's fifth terrestrial television station. In the Channel 5 bidding round, which closed on May 19, New Century Television submitted a bid of £2 million — £22 million less than City expectations and £34 million below the highest bid.

Mr Murdoch described the

£2 million figure as a "grudging compromise".

He added: "I said we shouldn't really bid; that was my feeling. But the management were very keen on bidding... this is just a matter of commercial judgment. I think it's going to be very, very hard for Channel 5 to be commercially successful."

He denied he had encouraged New Century Television to under-bid as a result of pressure from the Government on him not to expand his British media interests.

Commenting on the Government's forthcoming White Paper on cross-media ownership, expected to be published this week, Mr Murdoch said he was not worried about suggestions of a 15 per cent ceiling on ownership of the media market.

"Our media empire in Britain was recently shown, I think, to own 10 per cent of the media in Britain or 10.8 per cent or something," he said.

He emphasised that it was "not possible" for one player to dominate the world media market.

Mr Murdoch said that the Editors of *The Times* and its sister paper, *The Sunday Times*, would decide who to support at the next General Election.

But he added that he would have some input into the decision of which party *The Sun*, another News International title, would back.

In Mr Murdoch's words: "We'll have to find out what the difference is between Mr Blair and Mr Major before we make that decision... right now, from this distance, it's rather confusing."

ICI raises bid for Grow

By ERIC REGULY

IMPERIAL Chemical Industries is likely to learn today whether the increased bid it submitted over the weekend for Grow Group, the American paintmaker, was enough to beat an offer from its arch-rival, Sherwin-Williams.

ICI, led by Sir Ronald Hampel, the chairman, would not disclose the value of its new bid. Its previous offer was \$17.50 a share for the 25 per cent stake held by Corimon, a Venezuelan company, and \$18.10 a share for the remainder, valuing Grow Group at about \$290 million. Sherwin-Williams topped ICI with a bid worth \$19.50 a share, for a total valuation of \$320 million. Grow, with annual sales



Hampel: facing rival

of about \$500 million, is a medium-sized player in the house paint market. If ICI wins Grow, its 150 stores would be added to ICI's 450 Glidden paint stores in the US. Total sales of the en-

larged group, which would be based in Ohio, would be \$1.5 billion.

ICI said that Grow would be a good fit because most of its outlets are in the south and in the west, areas of weakness for Glidden, whose strength is in the mid-west.

Grow put itself up for sale because it does not know whether it can survive as an independent company. Industry margins are tight because of strong competition and high raw material prices. Furthermore, Grow stretched itself financially when it bought Sinclair, a Californian paintmaker, for \$100 million.

Grow recently reported a third-quarter loss of \$668,000, against a profit of \$128 million in the same period a year ago.

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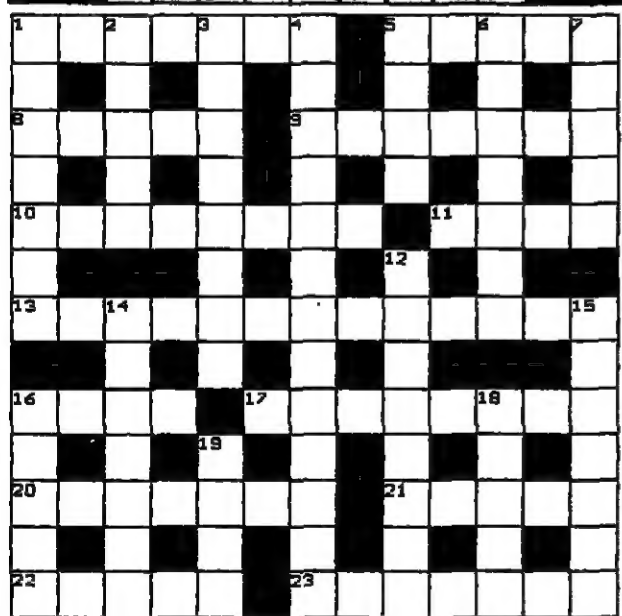
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No 476

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Joins (two ropes) (7) | 1 German baked pastry (7) |
| 2 Gem surface (5) | 2 Professional stand-in (5) |
| 3 Happen again (5) | 3 Heavy ribbed fabric (8) |
| 4 Close (session); put off (7) | 4 Exchange of insults (8,5) |
| 5 Creator spirit (8) | 5 Mountain, a symbol of Japan (4) |
| 6 Cheap and nasty (4) | 6 Pivotal (7) |
| 7 Speak authoritatively (3,4,3) | 7 Slight addition, colour (5) |
| 8 System of worship, devotion (4) | 8 Carbon fuel; shade of grey (8) |
| 9 Honorary (professor, retired) (8) | 9 It is burnt, eaten at Christmas (4-3) |
| 10 Cause of indisposition (7) | 10 A spendthrift (7) |
| 11 Willow (twig for basket) (5) | 11 Allure; spell (5) |
| 12 Power (5) | 12 Robber (5) |
| 13 Giving assistance (7) | 13 Maintained; continued (4) |

SOLUTION TO NO 475

ACROSS: 1 Aristide 5 Ross 9 Oriel 10 Bargain 11 In the long run 12 Serene 13 Rhythm 16 Meretricious 19 Halcyon 20 Dekko 21 Wick 22 Powered

DOWN: 1 Amok 2 Thinner 3 Solzhenitsyn 4 Embalm 6 On air 7 Synonym 8 French window 12 Somehow 14 Truckee 15 Kidnap 17 Relic 18 Word

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